

Boy Recovering From Fall Down Mine Shaft

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 28. (U.P.)—A 17-year-old high school youth apparently was recovering today from injuries and exposure after a fall down a deep shaft at the Leggett's Creek Colliery of the Penn Anthracite Company near his North Scranton home.

Albert Owens finally was rescued and brought to the surface late yesterday after he had clung to bracing timbers that had broken his fall. If he had lost his hold, police said, he would have plunged 700 feet to certain death.

Young Owens and his brother, Frank, 15, were playing near the mine entrance, when Albert dropped down the chasm. The brother ran to a house a half-mile away and State Motor Police were notified.

Patrolman John Owens first attempted to rescue the youth but the rope was too short. A ladder then was placed across the shaft and with a longer rope Nicholas Williams descended and was pulled up with young Owens.

Officials were informed there were no guard rails at the shaft.

The victim was removed to Scranton State Hospital with a broken right leg, possible internal injuries. He suffered from exposure in the bitter cold in the mine shaft before his rescue.

1939 Albert Owens rescued after fall down mine shaft

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