

DOCTOR RICHEY IS IMPROVING

**Former Local Man Injured
in Fall Down Mine Shaft
Is Better.**

Dr. Granvil L. Richey, 44, formerly of this city, who was injured seriously Nov. 6 at Centerville, Ia., while attempting to descend into a mine shaft to administer aid to a stricken miner, is reportedly in an improved condition at St. Mary's hospital in Rochester, Minn., after undergoing a series of operations as a result of his injuries.

Dr. Richey, the son of Mrs. Stu-

art Richey, who resides in Columbus with her daughter, Mrs. Oscar Boyd, at 410 Gladstone avenue, suffered a broken nose, jaw, left leg, right heel and ankle, when a cable broke while he was descending into the shaft to aid the miner, plunging the elevator and its occupant 125 feet to the bottom of the shaft.

The Centerville physician, a graduate of Columbus high school and Indiana university medical school, is the medical director at St. Joseph's hospital in Centerville, where he was taken immediately after the accident occurred. His room number at St. Mary's hospital is 4228. His wife is with him at the hospital.

CATS COME HIGH

BOSTON (UP)—The high cost of loving cats is a problem for Mrs. Jeanne Dodge. Feeding her 25 cats, all adopted strays, costs her \$40 a month.

1951 Doctor attempting to give aid rescued after fall down mine shaft

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Tue, Mar 9, 2021

Dr. Richey Hurt In Fall at Mine

**Former Local Man is
Critically Injured in
Accident in Iowa.**

Dr. Granvil L. Richey, 44, formerly of this city, and the son of Mrs. Stuart Richey of Columbus was injured critically Tuesday at Centerville, Iowa, after falling 125 feet to the bottom of a mine shaft while attempting to reach an injured miner.

Dr. Richey, a graduate of Columbus high school and Indiana university, was called to the mine at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning to treat an injured coal miner who lay trapped in one of the pits. While descending into the pit, an elevator cable broke, hurling Dr. Richey to the bottom of the mine shaft.

Attendants at St. Joseph's hospital said he suffered a broken nose, jaw, left leg and right heel and ankle.

Miner's Leg Pinned.

Richey was lowered into the mine yesterday to administer to Eugene Welch, 40, who was trapped when his leg was pulled against a sharp cutting chain on a coal-cutting machine. Welch's right leg was amputated when he was brought to the surface three hours after Richey's accident.

The cage in which the doctor was being lowered broke from its cables, spilling him among twisted wreckage. The falling cage jerked loose wires and blew fuses, throwing the shaft into darkness and adding to the confusion.

Pulled to Surface.

Richey was pulled to the surface in a second elevator while another miner was lowered to give Welch a sedative. Still conscious, Welch writhed in pain as miners cut away part of a coal vein and partially dismantled the cutting ma-

chine to free him.

During the second world war, Dr. Richey served as a lieutenant colonel in the Pacific theater, receiving a medical discharge in 1945.

He graduated from Columbus high school in 1926 and after receiving a medical degree from Indiana university, he worked at Riley hospital in Indianapolis and interned at Lutheran hospital in Des Moines, Ia. He is at present medical director of St. Joseph's hospital in Centerville.

Two sisters are living in Columbus, Mrs. Charles Smiley, 615 Gladstone avenue, and Mrs. Oscar Boyd, 410 Gladstone avenue. His mother resides with Mrs. Boyd.

State Is Whipped by New Storm

More snow fell here today as a new storm whipped across Indiana, but roads were reportedly generally clear this afternoon and only partly cloudy skies are predicted for Thursday.

Low temperatures of 20 to 25 degrees are predicted for tonight with highs of 40 to 45 degrees due for southern Indiana on Thursday.

Snow, sleet and rain which fell in Columbus through Tuesday totaled 1.27 inches of precipitation, the most here since mid-summer.

The mercury failed to get above 38 degrees Tuesday as the early fall cold wave continued. The low Tuesday night was 27 degrees.

The new storm moved from the southwest corner of the state late Tuesday across the state to the northeast corner this morning.

South Bend had nine inches of snow on the ground, the area around the tip of Lake Michigan had seven inches, Goshen had four, and other points had two to three

1951 Dr Richey seriously injured in elevator fall at mine

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Thu, Mar 11, 2021

One Caught in Saw, Other Falls 125 Feet — Miner, Doctor Hurt in Iowa Coal Pit

CENTERVILLE (AP) — Two victims of a double tragedy in a coal mine near Mystic Tuesday were hospitalized here today, one of them in a critical condition.

The victims were Eugene Welch, 40, of Mystic, a miner caught in a cutting machine underground, and Dr. G. L. Richey, 44, of Centerville, who fell 125 feet down a mine shaft while attempting a rescue.

Welch, trapped nearly four hours in the machine before fellow workers freed him, underwent amputation of his right leg below the knee in St. Joseph's hospital here Tuesday night. He was described as in "fair" condition.

Doctor Richey was in "very critical condition" from multiple fractures suffered when the cable broke on a cage in which he was being lowered in the mine to aid Welch.

The first accident occurred when Welch's trouser leg caught in the endless chain which is used to cut into the vein of coal at the Blue Flame mine between Mystic and Plano. The miner's right leg was drawn between the cutting teeth on the chain and the coal vein.

Doctor Richey, answering a call to aid the trapped man, stepped into the cage and started to be lowered into the mine. Suddenly the cage broke loose and plunged to the bottom of the shaft. The cage was demolished and the doctor lay in the wreckage.

A squad from the Centerville fire department rescued Doctor Richey and he was taken to a hospital here. He suffered a broken left leg, right ankle and jaw, skull and facial injuries and possible internal injuries.

Meantime, George Hunt, an operator of the mine, and other workers labored by the light of headlamps to free Welch. They used acetylene torches to cut loose some of the machinery.

Appanoose County Sheriff A. G. Morian, investigating possible causes of the accident which injured Doctor Richey, said Tuesday night that a licensed engineer was not at the controls of the elevator.

Wellman Group Attends Wedding At Cedar Rapids

WELLMAN—Mrs. Mary Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. Eulala Morrow and Marion Bell attended the wedding ceremony of Frances Lee Whetstone, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Whetstone, formerly of Wellman, now of Cedar Rapids.

The wedding took place Thursday at 3 p. m. in St. Paul's Methodist church with Dr. Marvin Kober performing the ceremony. The groom was Richard Carter of Cedar Rapids.

Miss Virginia Richey of Ottumwa was a week-end guest in the home of her mother, Mrs. Ellis Richey.

Wellman Visitor
Miss Kittle Mae Maddock of Des Moines was home for the week-end visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Severt.

Paul Hoffmans of Davenport were week-end guests of her parents, Dr. and Mrs. W. S. McIntosh and on Sunday Mrs. Hoffman went to Des Moines to attend the A. A. U. W. convention held there. Jean is president of the Tri-Cities

State Liquor Board Revokes 38 Permits

DES MOINES (AP) — The Iowa Liquor Control commission Tuesday voted to revoke 38 individual purchase permits permanently and to suspend eight others indefinitely.

Thirty-seven of the permanent revocations were based on conviction of the holder of drunken driving.

Burglars Carry Away Safe, \$500 Cash Loot

DAVENPORT (AP)—A 250-pound safe containing \$500 in cash was carried away from the Period tavern here early today.

Squad-car officers reported they discovered the rear door of the tavern ajar about 5 a. m.

Jack Paulson, owner of the establishment, told police the safe was taken from the office. This is the 10th time in the past six years, and the fourth time this year, that the tavern has been broken into, police said.

1951 Dr Richey falls down shaft in elevator

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Thu, Mar 11, 2021