Brave Baby Lives

Three-Year-Old Child Rescued From Mine Shaft; Imprisoned 11 Hours

Miami, Okla., April 1—(AP)—Brave Baby Gerald Collins lived today, saved from a terrifying prison deep in a mine drill hole by strong arms and warm hearts.

Wan and bruised, but with a courageous, "I'm all right," the three-year-old, doubled up for 11 hours twenty feet below the surface of the earth at the Mary Ann lead and zinc mine near Picher, was rescued through a parallel shaft last night. "He's alive," cried a husky miner. Out from beyond the lights of the little rescue area a roar of thanks echoed through the hills from the throats of thousands of watchers.

Whirled in an ambulance 11 miles to the Baptist hospital here cuddling in the mother's embrace of Mrs. Paul Collins, little Gerald "talked a blue streak" and didn't appear badly hurt. But X-ray pictures were scanned today for possible fractures.

There was danger, too, said Dr. General Finnell, of pneumonia as a result of exposure.

Toddling after his workbound father, Gerald stopped to play about the 250-foot drill hole yesterday morning. It's maximum diameter is about a foot. He fell in and with his knees doubled up and his arms pinned above his head, wedged 20 feet down. There he stayed until volunteers and miners of the Tri-State lead and zinc district got him out after a frantic battle to pierce solid rock.

"Hurry Daddy, take me, take me!" the little boy called out as his rescuers, working in small squads, neared success.

"Gee, but he's a gritty one," cried "Daddy" Collins, young mine pros-

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