

The Cedar Rapids Gazette

Disaster Strikes at Consol No. 9



One of the first miners to be rescued from the burning depths of Consol No. 9 near Mannington, W. Va., was carefully transferred to a stretcher Wednesday. Approximately 85 miners were trapped underground when explosions and fires broke out in the coal mine Wednesday. Eight were rescued when a bucket was dropped down a 700-foot shaft and 13 miners walked out from a different portal.

Explosions Halt Rescue

Smoke billowed from the Llewellyn portal of the coal mine ravaged by fire and explosions Wednesday. Deadly gas from a fourth major explosion Thursday dimmed hope that any of more than 70 miners trapped would be found alive. Rescue operations were put off indefinitely.



A Grim Wait

Grim-faced, but dry-eyed, Rita Summers and her daughter Linda Kay, 2, waited Wednesday near Consol No. 9, the mine ravaged by fires and explosions, still hopeful that her brother, Dale Davis, would be counted as a survivor. In the background is a coal preparation plant.



Only a Few Are Lucky

Three miners counted at the sun as they were lifted by bucket from the depths of the burning coal mine No. 9 near Mannington, W. Va., Wednesday. Five others were similarly rescued and 13 miners escaped through a new air shaft. But more than 70 miners were still trapped Thursday and chances for their rescue appeared dim.

Small Son Wants To Be A Farmer so He Can Get Up Early and Watch TV All Day

By Erma Bumbeck

IT bothers most parents that their children do not know what they want to be when they grow up. It bothers some of us that they do.

I've got one child who wants to be a pilgrim. He says they wear mud clothes. Another one wants to be a spy. (He hasn't said for whose side, but he wears an armband and has my mattress bugged.)

One is still open for offers. He is inclined to change his mind every three hours. When he was five he wanted to own a lot of houses.

The idea of a son in real estate gave all of us a firm, secure feeling. "You've made a wise choice," his father counselled. "There is always a demand for good housing and a good feeling knowing you are supplying a real need."



A Place To Play

"I don't care about that," he said. "I just want a lot of places where I can play on the steps without someone yelling at me."

Sometimes in the cold winters that followed, I used to sit before the fire and visualize my 4-year-old holding real-estate on the steps of his house. And I'd put an aspirin in a cube and drink it.

He went through other phases, of course. For an entire week he wanted to be knothole drill on a building crew; then an Olympic torchlighter and one day he even aspired to be an orphan.

"People are always giving them candy."

Last week he produced his biggest aspiration to date. "I want to be a farmer," he announced at dinner.

The table was quiet. His brother was the only one with strength enough to ask why.

"Because," he said, "they get up real early in the morning, get all their work done and then they have all day to sit around and watch television."

That Must Be It

"That's not exactly the way it is," explained my husband. "Farmers work very hard and long hours."

"Have you seen those TV antennas on barns?" he asked.

"Those are lightning rods!" his father said. "Besides, it costs a lot of money to buy machinery to be a farmer."

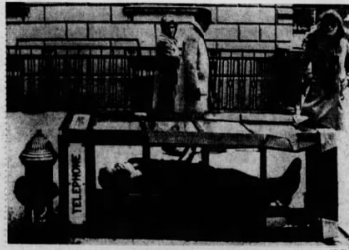
"I get that all figured out," he said. "I entered a name-a-cow contest. The first prize is either the cow or \$500. I'm going to take the cow and that'll start me off!"

"What did you name the cow?" asked his father.

"BIG BILL," he said proudly.

No one said anything for quite a while. It could be worse, I guess. He could go into gynecology.

(C) 1968, Newsday, Inc.



A Relaxed Conversation

Of course, it would take up more sidewalk space, but surely conversation would be much more relaxed if all telephone booths were placed horizontally like this one at 8th street and Fifth avenue in New York.



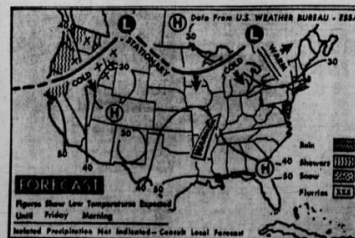
Crime Boss Back Home

The semi-retired crime syndicate chief Tony (big Tony) Accardo arrived Tuesday night at O'Hare airport, Chicago, following a flight from Rome. He was met by his wife, Clara. A porter handled luggage.



Take MY Picture

Young boys peer through the barbed wire fence surrounding a military compound in the Mekong Delta area. They seem happy to smile for the camera man.



East Iowa will be fair and warmer through Friday, says the weather bureau. Night lows should be around 30 and Friday highs should reach the low 50s.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Lichty



... And just because you're dissatisfied with your correspondence school administration is no reason for throwing eggs at our mailman!