

War Vet Rescued After Being Trapped by Cavein 22 Hours

Warner, N. H. —(AP)— Barely conscious, Norman Woods, 23-year-old Sutton war veteran was rescued from an 18-foot well today after being buried up to his waist for 22 hours by a cavein.

Trapped while working in the well, Woods was pinned at the bottom of the pit and held prisoner all yesterday afternoon and last night. When finally rescued by 300 volunteer workers, Woods was taken 18 miles to the Margaret Pillsbury hospital in Concord.

Dr. Edward Putnam said Wood was in "pretty fair condition." "He did not go into shock and is resting comfortably," the physician said. "He probably will remain at the hospital for at least a few days, however."

Kept alive and warm through the near-freezing night with an oxygen mask and five electric heating pads, Woods joked nervously with his weary rescue crew and chatted confidently with his young wife.

"Just take it easy fellows," he said, puffing on a cigaret that had been lowered to him. "I only want to get out of here in one piece. A couple of hours or more in here won't make much difference."

A make-shift harness under his arms supported him and took some of the weight of the tons of gravel and rocks off his legs.

In the glare of arclights, with the temperature dropping to a low of 35 degrees, Woods nibbled on sandwiches and drank cups of steaming hot coffee during the night from a Red Cross canteen that had been set up at the edge of the shaft.

Diving cautiously in 60-man shifts, townsfolk and men from nearby construction projects sought to dig a 10-foot trench around the well so that the sides would not cave in further.

Others sought to shovel earth and boulders away from Woods' body so that he might be raised from the shaft he was digging for a summer resident yesterday when the walls collapsed about 11 a.m.

Woods was alone at the bottom of the well when the walls caved in. Warned by a trickle of earth, he sought to climb a ladder to safety but had traveled only a few feet before he was trapped.

His cries for help were heard by other members of the crew. Before they could reach him he was buried to the waist. They summoned aid and fully 80 per cent of the townsfolk responded.

Business establishments were closed as clerks and proprietors joined in the rescue and a half-dozen construction gangs sped by truck to the scene. At noon yesterday high school students were dismissed and boys were equipped with shovels and joined their fathers and brothers in the work gangs. Girls helped distribute coffee and sandwiches.



Fiorella LaGuardia

Death Is Near For LaGuardia

New York. — (AP)— Former Mayor Fiorella H. LaGuardia slept deeply today and his physician said that it "was doubtful" that the city's beloved "Butch," gravely ill at his home, would ever awaken.

Mayor William O'Dwyer asked the city to pray for his tough little predecessor who hated injustice and chislers.

In his latest bulletin, Dr. George Baehr, LaGuardia's physician, said: "There have been no indications of improvement and it is not expected that he will regain full consciousness. His pulse is somewhat weaker."

LaGuardia, 64, collapsed at his home Tuesday night. He rallied only slightly from the coma yesterday and took a little nourishment. He was suffering from a pancreas condition which had gradually limited his activities since his decision in 1945 not to seek reelection.

Thousands Feared Lost in Jap Flood

Tokyo. —(AP)— Roaring floods fed by heavy new rains have cost the lives of an estimated 1,300 Japanese, and the home ministry urgently appealed for a \$4,000,000 appropriation to patch broken river banks.

Kyodo News agency, in estimating the death toll, listed more than 2,000 persons missing. Other unofficial estimates ran as high

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