

Body of Youth Drowned at McCall Recovered Friday

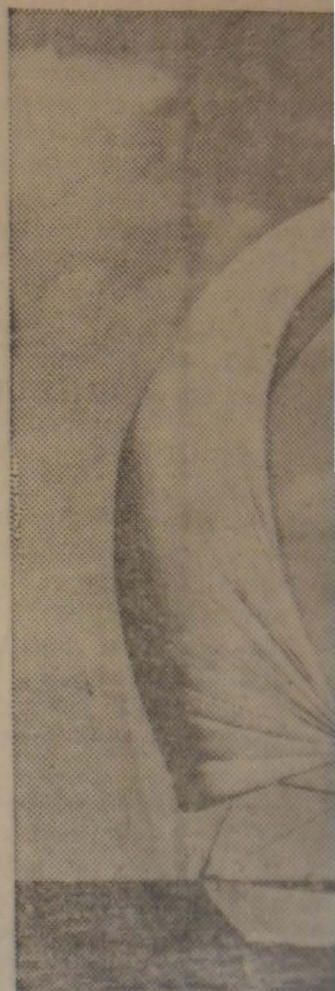
Recovery of the body of William Brennan, CCC enrollee who was drowned in Payette Lake Thursday was announced late this afternoon by members of the Timber Protective association and the sheriff's office. The body was found by means of a grappling hook in 225 feet of water after members of the searching party had chopped and blasted a pathway thru the ice to permit the use of boats in the search.

The accident occurred when Brennan left the main group of skaters and wandered toward the center of the lake where the ice was thinner. The ice gave way under his weight and he was unable to extricate himself from the numbing waters.

Heroes of the tragedy were a fellow CCC youth, Margaret McCall, Adeline Heikkola and Cyril Cruse, who risked their lives in an effort to save the young man. William Tyler, the CCC boy who was accompanying Brennan saw him disappear through the ice and tried to regain solid ice himself in order to assist his friend. He too, however, broke through and was forced to cling helplessly to ice that crumpled under his grasp while Brennan lost his hold and vanished under the freezing waters of the lake.

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Tyler was in the water for considerable time, being far away from the rest of the skaters, his cries for help went unheard for some time. His predicament was finally discovered by three McCall young people, Margaret McCall, Adeline Heikola and Cyril Cruse, who removed their outer clothing and tied them together, finally succeeded in extracting Tyler from the icy water. He was taken immediately to the Hotel McCall where first aid was administered. He was later taken to the camp.

According to Tyler, Brennan lost his hold and drowned about five minutes after the accident. Tyler was in the water about a half hour and stated that "he might have lasted fifteen more minutes" if his rescuers had not arrived on the scene.

Wm. Brennan besides being an enrollee of the C C C camp was also a student in the McCall high school. He was one of the players on the local football squad last fall. His home was in Nampa.

As the ice was not thick enough to support the searching party, a path through the ice had to be blasted with dynamite in order to allow boats to be used. Even so, the recovery of the body was considered extremely lucky due to the depth of the water and the fact that there is a current at the location where Brennan disappeared.

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