

Didn't Expect To Survive

By IAN MACDONALD
 C-31 Press Staff Writer
 SPRINGHILL, N.S. (CP) — I never thought I'd see the light of day. My chances were a hundred to one against coming out alive.

That's what Bruce Canning said Sunday as he rested at his home after two days trapped a mile underground by a coal-mine explosion.

As he spoke, church bells rang in this Nova Scotia mining community, announcing special services for victims killed in the disaster.

Bruce—his slim build and sandy hair make him look younger than his 25 years—was working his first shift in several days, under foreman Charlie Burton when the explosion ripped through No. 4 bank-head of the Cumberland Railway and Coal Company Thursday. The blast was heard 42 miles away.

"All we felt down there was a big gush of air," Bruce said. "Then Charlie said there was a break in the (power) line. We didn't know where it was."

"We walked to the 44 (4,400-foot level) bottom after that. The smoke was getting pretty heavy. Then the gas came."

"We managed to crawl to an old electric water pump and got it going. That saved our lives."

Bruce couldn't tell how many men were around him in the darkness. They got air by holding their faces near the pump exhaust. The pump acted as an air compressor, sucking air through the pipe normally used to draw in water and pushing it through the exhaust.

"After a while we decided there was no use staying there any longer. We tore our shirts to pieces, wet them in some rusty water, put them over our faces and pushed on."

BUMPED INTO OTHERS
 Bruce said as he crawled along in the cold dampness, he bumped into several men.

"I couldn't tell whether they were dead or alive. It was an awful feeling, not being able to help them. There was nothing I could do."

"Some of the fellows told me I was praying out loud. I don't remember that but I know I was praying all the time."

"I passed out several times. I couldn't get enough air. My heart was beating so hard I thought it would burst."

"You'll never know what his line not to have enough air. If I had air I could stay down four weeks and it wouldn't put me out any."

"Eventually I crawled to the pump house at 33 (3,300-foot level) and threw my arms around the air pipe. There was a little air coming out of it."

FOUND UNCONSCIOUS
 That's where the draggermen found Bruce unconscious Saturday night. He woke up in hospital Sunday to see the sun. Later he was sent home, still feeling "pretty wobbly."

"It's an awful feeling being gassed," Bruce said. He gathered his four-year-old daughter Linda and son Philip, almost 2, around him. He hadn't seen them for a long time and hadn't expected to see them again."

The air in the mine, he said, was so heavy with gas that the slightest movement caused him to breathe heavily.

"It made me feel a little happy at one stage. Then my head started spinning. I lost all sense of direction and my knees were like rubber."

Bruce said that, despite his wife's protest, he planned to go back into the mine to help bring others out.

WON'T GO BACK
 "One thing for sure, I'll never work in the mines again," he said. That sentiment was echoed by the father of 18-year-old Wayne Smith, youngest miner trapped in the pit.

"I didn't have it as tough as Bruce did," Wayne said. "We were in the same section but the air was better."

HISTORIC CLONY
 The parliament of Bermuda, a colony with representative government, was established in 1620.

Coming Events
 Regular dance, Bonshaw Inn.
 Hot chicken supper, Corran Bann Wednesday, Nov. 7th. Dance after.

Lillian's Beauty Shop will open on Monday at 100 Filzroy Street. Phone 4328. Prop. Lillian Quinn.

Regular dance Mt. Ryan Hall every Tuesday night. Don Messer's Orchestra.

St. Mary's Parish chicken supper Beaver Club Hall Montague, Wednesday November 7th.

Playing market price. Phone 7888 collect for pick-up service. Urban McQuaid, Southport.

Dance Mt. Stewart Memorial Hall Tuesday night. "Rollie MacKenzie's" Orchestra.

Card Party Spring Park Hall Monday 8:30 p.m. Prizes, lunch, beginning of tournament.

Buying live and dressed poultry Monday through Friday, until noon Parker Canfield, Craupud.

gas didn't reach me. We smelled gas when we walked up to the 4,400-foot level but we managed to get through to the 4,100 level and turn an air valve on.

"Most of the time we just sat there in the dark, wondering whether help would arrive. We didn't talk much—that could you

say at a time like that?"
 Wayne's father, Arnold Smith said, "but it seemed a miracle to find my son alive."

"I'm going back to work when they get things cleaned up, but my son isn't. He only started working about 2 1/2 months ago."

RELIGION AND LIFE

By Very Rev. George C. Pidgeon, D.D., LL.D.
 First Moderator of the United Church of Canada

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MORAL DISASTER PATHETIC AT MOMENT OF TRIUMPH

We have had striking examples in athletics lately of victory snatched from defeat.

Canadian boys need to take note of the fact that our two most famous athletes this year, the girls, and that their crowning triumphs were won because they refused to be beaten when failure seemed inevitable.

They accomplished what many of the nation's best contenders tried in vain to do because they fought to the finish.

When Dr. Roger Bannister won the mile race in the British Empire Games, his rival was ahead most of the way. But Bannister refused to be arrested, and ran his own race in his own way, and then had strength left at the end for the spurt that brought victory.

Here is a lesson that youth is teaching today.

"Count no man happy till he dies" is a saying handed down to us from ancient times. No one knows what may happen to the best on the last lap of the race of life. No one—particularly no saint—can afford to relax either his vigilance or his effort to the very end.

Nothing is more pathetic than moral disaster at the moment when the final triumph seems assured.

RACE OF LIFE
 But "you must have a start." Here age speaks to youth. The race of life has always been a favorite theme for the pulpit, and we recall with gratitude a sermon on the subject at the time of Spurgeon's death.

A story had gone the rounds that just before he died Spurgeon quoted St. Paul's swan song: "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith. The Sunday following Dr. A. J. Mowatt gave a moving sketch of that great preacher's career, and then turned sharply to us young folk: "You must have a start."

There can be no triumphant finish if you have not entered

the race, and then, if the finish is important, so is a good start. Watch the runners at the line waiting for the signal and then see how much depends on the getaway. So many young people put off indefinitely their entry to the Christian race. They intend to do it, but delay.

A definite decision for Christ is postponed to "a more convenient season."

"Now is the day of salvation" is the inspired word that calls for immediate action. Everything in the future depends on action in the present.

HUMAN NATURE
 But the race of life must be run to the very end. There is a passage in St. Paul's writings that shows that human nature can never be trusted—not even at its best. Athletic contests were familiar to Corinthian Christians, those brilliant and unstable converts of his, and he wrote them, urging diligence in their religious service. His own example was before them, and he said: "I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air; but I pommel my body and subdue it, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified." Or, if you prefer the old version—"lest I myself should be a castaway."

Think of it; at the height of his career, that body of his still needed stern discipline. Mighty in intellect, red hot in his zeal, untiring in his labor for Christ and His cause, that body of his still needed the rein, or its natural impulses would have wrecked everything.

He had been a Pharisee and the son of a Pharisee and this meant he was governed by the most rigid that from his childhood life had and most exacting of all legal systems, and in the full tide of his ministry he found it necessary to continue this discipline.

His closing words that he had "kept the faith" show that he continued it to the end.

MASTER'S TEACHING
 In all this he echoed the teachings of his Master. Again and again Jesus insisted: "He that endures to the end shall be saved." He said this to His disciples when giving them instructions for their first mission. Persecutions they would meet, and only by holding fast their faith in spite of everything could they be saved.

He repeated the saying when foretelling the troubles of the last days. Then when Hebrew Christians were tempted to revert to their old customs to escape persecution, the sacred writer echoed: "We share in Christ if only we hold our first confession firm to the end."

So often older people feel that they can relax and enjoy things forbidden by their principles in youth. The consequences have often been disastrous.

In Canada we have had men in public life ruined by moral failure just when they seemed to have reached the summit of ambition.

Once, in a remote corner of an eastern province, we heard the echoes of the fall of a religious leader reverberating through the land. The humiliation and sorrow that one moral failure brought to hundreds was a revelation of the solidarity of Christian people.

On the other hand, to see a noble career in any business or profession crowned with respect and confidence and public gratitude shows how fidelity and endurance honors even the Lord who bought us. The end is the test.

W.C.T.U. NOTES

IS THIS CONSISTENT?

Calvin T. Ryan, Ed.M.

We become greatly frightened whenever there is an outbreak of polio. For that reason we rejoice when the Salk polio vaccine was declared safe to use. We are distressed by reports of deaths from cancer, and alarmed at the increase of deaths from heart disease. There is nothing strange about this attitude. What is strange, however, is that we do not become alarmed at the increase of alcoholism and the other effects traceable to alcohol. Is this consistent?

Air lines solicit passengers, furnish them with alcoholic beverages, and then warn of the danger of getting drunk.

In so far as I know, alcoholism, is the only "disease" sponsored by the United States Government, and alcohol is the only narcotic that one can buy without signing for it. Manufacturers can freely advertise it in national magazines, on television, and over the air. When any effort is made to control or restrict this advertising, we hear much about discrimination and restriction of liberty; but we hear not a word from the manufacturers, or from the press, TV, and radio, about the morals of the youth or the homes where beer does not belong. Is this consistent?

It is claimed that if we let whisky alone, it will let us alone. My home is in the residential district, nine blocks from the nearest tavern. One afternoon when I came home from work and walked into the living room, there sat a strange man. My wife and child were in the rear of the house, unaware of the man's presence. I soon discovered he was an alcoholic, so far gone that he didn't know where he was or what he had done.

Does it make sense to say that if I let whisky alone, it will let me alone?

One of the counselors in a state industrial school for boys near my hometown said that most of the boys were there because their parents gave them no attention, or because they set the wrong example before them. In nearly all instances, drink was behind the bad home training. We punish the children for faults of the parents, then we furnish the stuff that spoils the parents who neglect the children. Is this consistent?

It is common practice among many churches to retain on the church rolls the names of those who serve cocktails in their homes. Can anyone feature a truly Christian home with a bar in it? Is this consistent?

OLD MERCHANTS
 The word "sterling" comes from the castles, British merchants of the 12th century.

Protestant Orphanage Contributions

KENSINGTON CONTINUED

Collector, Mrs. Ernest MacEwan
 \$5.00 Roscoe Walker.
 \$2.00 each Mrs. Mattie MacKinnon, Com. Champion.
 \$1.00 each: Mrs. Preston Toombs, Ernest MacEwan, Mrs. Jean Riley, Ivan Darrach, Mrs. Charles Yeo, Mrs. Ira MacLeod, Mrs. George Cotton, Mrs. Earle Kennedy, George Sims, Kenneth Pidgeon, Benj. Champion, Mrs. Claude Dunning.

.50 cents each: Fred Semple, Mrs. E. Bernard, Mrs. A. Hiltz, Mrs. Charles Adams, Mrs. E. Stavert, Mrs. William Stavert, Mrs. Wallace Thompson.

Total \$24.50
 Collector, Mrs. Russell MacKay
 \$5.00 Dr. Maurice Clark
 \$2.00 Mrs. W. G. Simpson
 \$1.00 each Russell MacKay, Mrs. John A. Thompson, Mrs. William Thompson, Robert Coulson, Mrs. Earle Semple, Keith Ramsay

60 each; Mrs. Marshall Thompson
 50 cents each Mrs. John Duggan, Mrs. David Cassady, Mrs. D. MacKenzie.
 45 cents Mrs. Alvin Sudbury
 Total \$15.05

Collector, Mrs. Eric Sudbury
 \$1.00 each: Eric Sudbury, Mrs. John Cameron, Mrs. Francis Dunning.
 75 cents Mrs. Annie Burt
 50 cents Mrs. Susie Cameron
 25 cents each Mrs. Colin Burt, Mrs. David MacInnis.

Total \$47.51
 Collector, Mrs. D. MacKenzie
 \$2.00 each Rev. L. M. Murray, Misses Jessie and Lily Murphy.
 \$1.00 each Mrs. Jas. Sheen, Mrs. Joe Woodside, Mrs. Everett Champion, J. A. MacKenzie, Mrs. Ivan Gill, Mrs. Harry Brown, Nelson Henry, Mrs. Reg. Hiltz, Mrs. Frank Cobb, Miss B. Mountain, Mrs. Harris Blakeney, Mrs. Hodge Montgonyery, Mrs. Ella Smith, Mrs. Lloyd Howard, Mrs. D. MacKenzie.

.75 cents each Mrs. Charles Bear 50, Mrs. William Gill
 50 cents each Mrs. Roy Reeves, Mrs. Leonard Kelly, Mrs. Grace Harding, Mrs. James MacKenzie, Mrs. George Duggan
 25 cents Mrs. Elizabeth Roach
 Total \$23.25.

Collector, Mrs. W. Elmer Paynter.
 \$2.00 each W. S. MacLean, Mrs. Elmer Paynter, Rev. Alexander MacKay, Dr. Russell Furness
 \$1.00 each: Mrs. I. W. Jardine, Mrs. Harry Bowness, J. E. Inglis, Miss Adeline Campbell, Mrs. Joe Harding, Mrs. Gordon Cooke, Mrs. Fred Murphy, Mrs. James Murphy, Mrs. Theo. Ling
 75 cents Mrs. A. W. Humphrey
 50 cents Mrs. Wesley Foster

50 cents each Mrs. William Cousins, Mrs. F. A. Stavert, Benj. Condon, Mrs. James J. MacLean, Mrs. S. R. Peniston, Mrs. F. M. Moore, Mrs. Jas. Inglis.
 Total \$23.35.

Collector, Mrs. Orville Clark
 \$2.00 each: Maurice Clark, Boyd Bairisto, Hoarce Bryenton, Arthur Henry, William Johnson
 \$1.50 each Orville Clark, George Clark.
 \$1.00 each Mrs. P. Phillips, Mrs. Heath Caseley, Mrs. F. T. Inglis, Mrs. I. J. Humphrey, Mrs. Nell Caseley, Glen Cotton, Mrs. Jackie Bernard, Mrs. Roy MacArthur, Mrs. Myron MacArthur, Tyndall Semple, Keir Woodside, Mrs. Brewer Linkletter, Jas. F. Proffit, Mrs. John Cotton, Mrs. Bessie MacKay, W. B. Warren.

50 cents each Mrs. Roy Clark, Mrs. Jas. Clark, Mrs. Roy Mill, Benj. Burns.
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 Grand Total \$37.20.

HAMPTON
 Collector Mrs. F. A. Merrill
 \$2.00 each Mr. George Dunford, F. A. Merrill, Rev. M. K. Charman.
 \$1.00 each: Mrs. Warren Ferguson, Mrs. John Rogerson, Mr. Edgar Sobey
 75 cents each Mrs. William Meyers.
 50 cents Mrs. Earle Calbeck
 Total \$10.25.

Collector, Mrs. Rowan Ferguson
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Cdr. Kenneth Birtwistle Receives NATO Appointment

Commander Thomas S.R. Peacock, 40, of Quebec City, has been appointed in command of HMCS Nootka (destroyer escort) effective November 5.

He will be succeeded in his appointment on the staff of the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, at Norfolk, Va., by Cdr. Kenneth Birtwistle, 42, of Charlottetown, P.E.I., and Ottawa.

Cdr. Peacock succeeds Lt.-Cdr. Ernest M. Chadwick, 35, of Victoria and Halifax, who has been appointed to the staff of the Flag Officer Pacific Coast as Staff Officer (Plans and Costal Defence). Lt.-Cdr. Chadwick will take up his new appointment in the latter part of November.

CDR. KENNETH BIRTWISTLE
 Cdr. Kenneth Birtwistle was born in Sheho, Saskatchewan, on January 7, 1913, and was residing in Charlottetown, P.E.I., when he engaged the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve as a sub-lieutenant in June, 1940.

During the Second World War he served in shore appointments and at sea in HMCS Prince Robert (auxiliary cruiser). He transferred to the regular force in February, 1946.

From June, 1946, until January, 1949, Cdr. Birtwistle held the appointments of executive officer of HMCS Scotian, then a RCN establishment at Halifax; Senior Naval Officer Sydney, N.S., and first lieutenant-commander of HMCS Stadacona, RCN Barracks at Halifax.

He was appointed Deputy Director of Naval Organization at Naval Headquarters in February, 1954, and was appointed to the staff of the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic in October, 1956.



Cdr. K. BIRTWISTLE

Following a Royal Navy Staff Course at Greenwich, England, in 1952, he became Staff Officer (Plans and Operations) to the Flag Officer Atlantic Coast, with the additional appointment of Aide-de-Camp to the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

He was appointed Deputy Director of Naval Organization at Naval Headquarters in February, 1954, and was appointed to the staff of the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic in October, 1956.

GETS WILD WELCOME

PENANG, Malaya (AP) — The Duke of Edinburgh was given a tumultuous reception Wednesday in Penang, Britain's oldest settlement in Malaya. He arrived on the royal yacht Britannia on a tour of the Far East en route to Australia, where he will open the Olympics.

and has no particular place in their adult life. We need the influence and support of the adults of all Communities.

Your Music Festival Association, through this first column, appeals to all adults for renewed support for our efforts. That every-thing should be done in its proper season, is a well-known maxim. It is not too early to prepare for the 1957 Festival. Arrange a fall and winter program in which music, the universal language of all nations, has a prominent place. You will profit by the training, enjoy the fellowship of your associates, and be well-prepared with your entry for the 1957 Festival.

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MUSIC FESTIVAL AND MUSICIANS

The term "Music Festival" suggests a great variety of things to a great many individuals in this province. One pictures the wet tot in all her frilly finery moving her littingly on to the platform for her first public performance while another recalls vividly the sympathetic suggestions or the caustic criticism of a former adjudicator. Such reminiscing is usually reserved for one hectic week early in the spring when the Festival occupies our attention.

This year, through the medium of a column so generously provided by the management of this news paper, we are attempting to make people "festival-conscious" at an early date. From time to time different contributors will acquaint you with various aspects of the work of the Prince Edward Island Music Festival Association and the progress which is being made in preparing for our 1957 Festival.

It is just eleven years this fall since a small group of interested individuals decided that a Music Festival Association was needed in this province. The object of the Association, as announced at that

time "shall be to hold an Annual Musical Festival with the purpose of discovering talent and increasing an interest in music." The first festival held the following spring had an entry list of one hundred and twenty-one while our most recent Festival produced eighteen hundred and seventy-six contestants. This is truly remarkable growth and very definite evidence that there is an increased interest in music in this province.

However, as some one has wisely said, "The Festival must be more than a few days oasis in a cultural desert." It is important to have people in all communities who will remain music-conscious throughout the year and from year to year. It might be interesting to learn how many of the one hundred and twenty-one individuals who were participants in our first Festival have retained their interest in music or support it in the community ten years later. It is extremely important to have this adult support. Adult members of a community can promote or support glee clubs, church choirs, orchestras, and dance groups. Individuals who cannot perform in any of these fields can help by their interest and encouragement.

There is a grave danger of Festivals becoming purely student Festivals. Many Festivals show this trend. Adults do not enter the classes in sufficient numbers. Adults, as a rule, do not attend the sessions except as teachers and parents. Thus the younger participants get the impression that music is just part of the educational scheme

Ince, Charles Inman, Russell Ferguson.
 50 cents G. Victor Ferguson
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 Grand Total \$37.75.

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 Sunday 8 a.m. to 1 a.m.

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