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Dramatic Rescue of Boys Lost in Bush :: Britain Confident of Tennis Victory

BOTH HID AS SEARCH PARTY PASSED THEM

NOBODY EXPECTED TO DISCOVER THEM ALIVE

MELBOURNE, Saturday.

The dramatic finding of the two little Kelly boys who were lost in the bush near Orbost for three days and three bitterly cold nights was like bringing them back from dead to the people in the district. Nobody expected to see them alive again.

They were found by a searching woodcutter after one of the biggest bush hunts ever organised in Victoria. About 400 people headed by police, on horseback and on foot, combed the bush today—the climax of continual searching since Wednesday night, when the boys were first missed.

Foodless, and with nothing to keep them warm, the boys, aged seven and five, showed amazing endurance and resource. They had camped in a hollow log and covered themselves with bracken. They were obviously distressed but apparently they treated their ordeal as a great adventure. Nevertheless, it is doubtful if they could have lasted much longer.

Woodcutter's Amazing Story

"I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw the two youngsters going down to a creek for a drink," said Mr. W. Morell, the woodcutter who found them a few miles from their home.

"Their clothes were badly torn, and their legs and faces were scratched by the thick undergrowth. What amazed me most was that they had no idea that anybody would be looking for them. They were a bit dazed, and talked a lot rather

body would be looking for them. They were a bit dazed, and talked a lot rather wildly about shooting dingoes and possums.

"I asked them if they were hungry, and they said they could do with a bite. They were shaking, and obviously distressed. I boiled a billy and made some tea, and gave them all the food I had."

"They seemed more thirsty than hungry, and all the way in wanted to stop and

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and all the way in wanted to stop and drink from the creeks.

"When I came across them they had been preparing a shelter for the night in a hollow log. They were going to build in some brush at the end to make themselves snug.

SAW HORSEMEN

"I asked them if they had felt the cold, but they said they hadn't. I think they must have been delirious today, because they told me that a party of horsemen had passed them not long before.

"They did not think that these men were looking for them, and must have hidden from them, because one said, 'It would have been fun to have spat on one of the horses.' Evidently the horses had been close enough almost to be touched.

"They seemed to think that they would find their way home eventually, but I do

not think they could have stood another night of it.

"I was on foot, and I had to carry the younger boy about two miles. The other little chap could not travel very quickly. I kept shouting and sending out coo-ees, but I attracted nobody for a long time. Eventually people came to meet me when I had almost reached the road.

"I found a car there, and brought the little chaps straight into hospital," said Mr. Morell.

The elder boy, Stanley, who is seven, walks eight miles every day to the Brodribb School and back, and is a hardy youngster. Maurice is only five, and has not been to school.

The boys were lost when they tried to return from a house about a mile from their home. They were sent by their mother, Mrs. Parker, to borrow tea and sugar from a neighbor.

BOY SPREADS NEWS

Mrs. Parker had given up hope today that her boys would be found alive. When they were brought out of the bush a message was sent to her by the postmaster's son. The boy ran about four miles, rushed into the house panting out the news, and then spread the glad tidings to about 100 searchers, who were having refreshments outside before taking up the search again.

"You need not look any more," he gasped. "They have been found, and have gone to the hospital."

A great cheer went up. Then three shots were fired into the air. This was the prearranged signal to spread the news when the boys were found. Thus one of the greatest sensations the district has known was over.

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