

Bloodhound Trails Boy to 400-Foot Cliff; Searchers Stop for Night at Katahdin Slide

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MILLINOCKET, Me., July 19.—A bloodhound today followed the trail of Donn Fendler Jr., 12, of Rye, N. Y., to the brink of Saddle Slide, a 400-foot precipice high above Mount Katahdin's timber line. When the hound stopped at the edge of the rocky slide, a posse of 106 men camped there for the night.

"I'm trying to make myself believe there is still a thread of hope," said Donn's father, who has been sleepless since he became separated from his son while climbing on Maine's highest peak.

Saddle Slide is almost a sheer drop of 400 feet to a base of rocks. Forest rangers said that it was "faintly possible" that the boy could have survived such a fall.

Earlier in the day a bloodhound led Trooper James Grant along a two-mile trail to Chimney Pond half-way up the mountain, where the boy's footprints were found. Although the trail broke there, one of the boy's shoes fitted the tracks which were believed freshly made.

Mist covered the top of the mountain during the day, but nearly 300 men continued the search. They struggled through underbrush and even lowered themselves down treacherous slopes.

As searching operations halted for the night, Governor Barrows in Augusta announced that two more bloodhounds were being flown here from Hawthorne, N. Y., and would arrive at Bangor and be taken to Millinocket by State police. A \$500 reward for finding the boy has been posted by his father.

Mr. Fendler entered the forest reservation on Monday with Donn, his brother Henry and a friend, Henry Condon, and began the ascent with them. The boys outdistanced the elder Fendler near the peak, and Donn became lost when he retraced his steps to meet his father.

By The Associated Press.

MILLINOCKET, Me., July 19.—The elder Fendler sent Donn's twin brother, Henry, back to Newport, where the family had been vaca-



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Donn Fendler Jr.

tioning, to ask Mrs. Fendler not to come here, as she had proposed.

Mr. Fendler said that his son, small for his age, was in "good health," but could not have had anything to eat and had but scant protection against "close to freezing" weather near the summit.

The boy wore only lightweight underclothing, a khaki shirt, thin pants and a slip-on sweater, said the father.

Searchers pointed out that blueberries were available on the lower slopes, but there was no vegetation on the upper part of the mountain.