

July 18, 1962

159

Rush Man To Hospital After Hay Baler Crushes His Arm

MATHESON (Staff)—Provincial police Wednesday led a mercy drive at high speed to rush a Matheson teacher to hospital in Timmins after his entire right arm was caught in a hay baling machine.

George Budd, 24, father of two children and principal of Monteith Public School, is in hospital today in serious condition as doctors fight to save his mangled arm.

The accident happened at 6 p.m. on the farm of Louis Prince, five miles south of Matheson on the Munro Mine Road. Budd, along with Ernest Doughty, his father-in-law, were cutting and baling hay in a 15-acre field, police said.

The two had been working closely together all afternoon, Mr. Doughty raking, and Mr. Budd baling.

"I just went over this slight hill to rake hay, I couldn't have been more than five minutes and when I came back I saw him jammed in the machine," said Mr. Doughty.

Just how the accident happened is not fully known. Mr. Budd was lying on the feeder line with his arm jammed be-



GEORGE BUDD

tween two heavy rollers. Belts had to be cut and part of the machine dismantled before he could be freed, his father-in-law said.

Mr. Budd lay on his back during the entire rescue operations watching everything that was taking place, and pleading with the five men to work faster.

A doctor, a station wagon used as an ambulance, and all necessary equipment was

taken out to the field beside the machine.

The belt on which Mr. Budd lay had an automatic overload shutoff switch. This prevented him from being dragged into the machine and crushed to death.

"He is lucky he is alive. Somehow it looks like his shirt sleeve caught in the machine and it dragged him in," said Mr. Doughty. He said there was a notice on the machine to shut off all equipment before making any adjustments.

Mr. Doughty said it appeared Mr. Budd stopped to make an adjustment to the machine there was a bale not properly made.

Two rubber rollers compressed his arm and through continuous turning, may have worn the arm through until it was almost severed. Mr. Doughty said Mr. Budd did not lose much blood while trapped in the machine, but once he was freed, bleeding became serious.

A Matheson nurse, Mrs. Jessie Alliston, rode in the station wagon together with the victim for the 45-mile dash.

When he arrived at the hospital Mr. Budd received four blood transfusions before undergoing an emergency operation in an attempt to save his arm. At one stage he was receiving two transfusions at once.

In a severe state of shock, Mr. Budd was conscious through the whole ordeal. He was treated for shock at hospital before the operation could be started.

Mr. Budd purchased the hay baler last week under a joint arrangement with his father-in-law. He operates a 160-acre farm aside from his teaching duties.

He is principal of Monteith public school where he teaches Grades seven and eight. He has lived in Matheson for the past two years with his wife and two children.

Monteith Public School Principal meets with serious accident