

Man Ventures Into Forbidden Ground and Accident Follows, Said

Plunging 600 feet to his instant death and threatening to knock several high scalers from their precarious perches on the walls of the canyon, Ted Wells, 25, soldier, one of the members of the Sixty Third field artillery division which visited the workings this afternoon, became the first tourist to lose his life on the project since work was begun.

The accident occurred shortly after one o'clock this afternoon and, according to reports made to the officers on the reservation, was a result of violation of warning signs appearing on the road leading down the canyon from Lookout Point.

Eye witnesses to the accident declared that the army men went thru the gate, where warning signs telling tourists to remain out are posted and swarmed over the rocks below Lookout Point.

Six of the men, including Wells, were on an antiquated skip, once used as a platform for one of the cableways, when it gave way under their weight. Five of the men managed to scramble to safety but Wells went over the cliff to his death.

As his body hurtled down the rocky slopes of the canyon, it barely missed a number of high scalers at work on the walls and only a miracle saved the affair from becoming a major disaster.

The officers in charge of the division, who witnessed the accident waived all rights to an inquest and it is probable that the United States army will inquire into the tragedy.

The men and the officers were warned not to venture beyond Lookout Point but the warning was not heeded and the accident followed.