

Bloodhounds Flown In To Aid Search Party

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ranchers, will endeavor to cover the eastern canyons as far as Josephine Canyon and Saddle. Deputies and airmen will move up Madera Canyon and fan out on the saddle and up and over Baldy.

Chief worry among the searchers is that the deep snow will prove too great a barrier for the bloodhounds. Snow is known to be in five-foot drifts on the mountains and may cause the dogs to become exhausted before ever reaching the area where the boys are believed to be.

A warm sun yesterday softened the snow and low temperatures last night put a slight crust on the pack. However, today's weather—predicted to be in the 70's—will undoubtedly further soften the snow and make traveling difficult.

Despite the warm days, the mercury last night still fell below freezing at the Santa Rita Lodge, headquarters of the search, and was believed to have fallen below zero on Baldy itself.

The Scouts, part of a group of six, came to Madera Canyon Saturday morning to hike to the cabin on top of Mt. Baldy and return before dark. They then planned

to camp overnight at their base camp—a picnic area at the end of Madera Canyon Rd.

The ill-fated hike apparently failed because the climb up took more time than expected. The missing Scouts were probably returning down the mountain when they were overtaken by a sudden, unexpected snowstorm.

The storm—the worst in Southern Arizona history—blanketed the Santa Ritas under two to five feet of heavy, wet snow.

Three Scouts, companions of the missing boys, narrowly escaped being trapped by the storm. They had quit the climb late Saturday afternoon and returned to their camp just ahead of the storm.