



PILOT SERIOUSLY INJURED—A light airplane struck and broke utility lines Sunday afternoon and crashed into a field, Pancake Hill Road, Ellery Township. The pilot, Howard A. Craw, 38, Ross Mills, R.D. 1, Falconer, suffered from a broken back. His 11-year-old son, David, (inset), was not hurt. Deputy Sheriff M. Dale Campaign is seen inspecting the wreckage.

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—Post-Journal Stafffoto

Pilot Injured but Son Escapes in Plane Crash

Pinned between the seat and dashboard, Howard A. Craw, 38, Ross Mills, R.D. 1, Falconer, suffered a broken back in an airplane accident at 12:05 P.M. Sunday at Pancake Hill Road, Ellery Township.

He was piloting a Taylorcraft, a two-seater airplane, when it struck and broke utility lines and crashed into an open field opposite Del A. Johnson's Panque Acres Farm.

The pilot's son, David, 11, escaped without a scratch. Mr. Craw also suffered from scalp lacerations, a Jamestown General Hospital spokesman said. His condition is fair.

David told Police Chief O. William Carlson, Ellery Township, and Deputy Sheriff M. Dale Campaign that his father was circling the area prior to landing on a field at the home of Raymond Peterson, nearby, when the airplane struck the wires which cross the open field, the scene of the accident.

Mr. Johnson, Kimball Hanson and Nelson Gibson used a crow bar to free the pilot. The boy

crawled out of the wreckage. The Jamestown Ambulance Service was summoned.

As the wires broke, it shut off electric power and telephone services in most of the area. Many housewives found themselves with only a partially cooked meal. Niagara-Mohawk Power Corporation's trouble shooters restored service within two hours after they were summoned. Jamestown Telephone Company also sent its crew to the scene to repair its damages.

The airplane made a nose dive landing. The crash also broke the windshield and the propeller, stove in the engine and tore the right wing loose from the body. Police found a large hole in the wing, but were unable definitely to determine if it was torn when it struck the wires.

David also told the police that his father had recently installed a furnace for Mr. Peterson and he was en route to visit him and take him for an airplane ride.

The scene of the accident overlooks Chautauqua Lake and it attracted many spectators.