

Child Killed Getting Coal In Test Hole

**Anthracite Mining Claimed
Youngest Victim in Pottsville
Lad of 13**

**WAS SUFFOCATED
UNDER FALL OF COAL**

**Boy Was Assisting His Father
Mine Coal for Their
Home**

Anthracite mining today claimed its youngest victim since adoption of child labor laws with the death of Chris Minchoff, 13, Pottsville killed under a fall of top rock in the tunnel of an anthracite outcrop there.

The boy was working in an abandoned tunnel mining coal for the use of his family when the fall occurred, according to the police.

A rescue squad of five men worked in the narrow tunnel for five hours before reaching the body just before midnight.

Three other members of the family escaped in the tunnel, on the property of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company at Yorkville, a suburb.

The leg of the father, Frank Minchoff, directing the mining operation, was caught by the fall, but he soon released himself from the slide. Two other sons Carl, 12, and Frank, 15, also in the tunnel escaped unhurt. These three were further in the tunnel than the boy killed.

They joined in the search for the missing boy, a search that ended with finding his body.

The father was employed in the daytime as a miner by the Sherman Coal Company at Pottsville. Police said, he sought to add to his income by mining in the unused tunnel and used his sons as his helpers.

Investigators today learned that Minchoff had failed to place timbers in the tunnel to support the sides and roof as the coal was removed.

Miners and also Pottsville Firemen responded to call for help and worked under supervision of mine leaders who also gave their services. George Roos, Pottsville, Assistant General Manager for the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, and also Mine Inspector Charles Fronn, Pottsville, helped to direct the rescue.

The victim sustained a fracture of the skull, then probably died of suffocation while unconscious under the huge slide.

The test hole where the boy was caught, goes straight down 25 feet then slopes in for 16 feet.

HIGH SCHOOL CAPTAINS ELECTED YESTERDAY

**Thomas Vershinski and Lavinia
Frymoyer Basketball Leaders
for Red and White**

Thomas Vershinski and Miss Lavinia Frymoyer will captain the boys' and girls' basketball teams of Mount Carmel High School respectively next season.

Vershinski, a veteran, was elected to the captaincy yesterday afternoon at a meeting of lettermen of the 1930-31 Red Tornado cage squad while Miss Frymoyer was named today at a meeting held by members of the Red Amazon varsity.

Vershinski started at a guard position early this season but before the court campaign ended, he was shifted to forward by Coach Ray Singley. He also saw a little service at center.

Miss Frymoyer and Miss Mary Beierschmitt, forwards, led the attack of Miss Segrid Peterson's girls' sextet during the past season.

CHILD RUNS IN FRONT OF TRAIN; KILLED

**Pottsville Boy of Four Breaks
Away from Grandma and
Loses Life**

Francis Snyder, aged four years, was instantly killed last night at the Pennsylvania grade crossing on Norwegian street, Pottsville, when, breaking away from his grandmother, Mrs. Nora Snyder, he darted in front of a train that was being shifted.

Despite prompt action on the part of Conductor Richmer and Engineer Hellman, in bringing the train to a stop the truck of the first car passed over the child.

The boy and his grandmother were enroute to Center street, when the shifting engine came along. Crossing Watchman Bartlett had lowered the gates and the child and grandmother were apparently waiting for the train to pass.

Just as the train reached the intersection the child broke away and darted onto the tracks. Conductor Richman, who was on the first car saw the child's danger and signalled the brakeman who in turn