

# 3 Youths Hurt in Old Mine

Fear 2 Have Broken  
Backs, Other In-  
jured in Chest

Property Was Closed

Boys Were Stripping  
Coal in Old Mc-  
Dermott Mine

Three 14 and 15-year-old Spanish American boys were crushed by a rockfall, two seriously, while picking coal in an abandoned mine east of Gallup late yesterday.

The two most seriously hurt have back injuries. Attendants feared their backs were broken. They are Henry Arias, 15, of 200 East Lincoln avenue, son of Cipriano Arias, and Tony Rodriguez, 15, of 111½ East Princeton avenue, son of Vidal Rodriguez.

Joe Leone, 14, son of Y. Leone, North Gallup, has chest injuries.

Gallup American Coal company officials were conducting an investigation of the accident, but up to a late hour today, most of the facts remained undetermined.

## At Old McDermott Mine

The accident happened at the Old McDermott mine shortly before 5 p. m. yesterday. Either four or six boys were "stripping" coal out of the old slope when the ceiling is believed to have caved and buried them. Those who were injured were pulled out by their comrades, it was believed.

They were rushed to St. Mary's hospital in a Rollie ambulance.

One report said that the boys had attempted to "shoot" the coal and had been caught in the explosion that followed. This report was discounted by mining men, however.

The Old McDermott mine is located east of the Charamonte mine, about 3 miles east of Gallup.

## Was Closed Property

It was abandoned five or six years ago. Members of the Charamonte family said they had shot the entrance to the old slope several times in an effort to prevent boys from digging coal but that they had always made a new entrance.

The property was closed and no trespassing signs had been placed near the tunnel.