

CHERRY MINE INQUIRY HAS ABRUPT CLOSING

JURY WILL NOT ANNOUNCE VER-
DICT UNTIL MISSING WIT-
NESSES ARE FOUND.

Cherry, Ill., Dec. 9.—Inquiry by the coroner's jury into the causes of the St. Paul mine disaster came to an abrupt close today without a verdict being reached or any steps being made to fix responsibility for the attending loss of life.

The jury announced that it would not return a verdict until Alexander Rosenjack and Robert Dean, the missing witnesses, either had been found or the county officials showed evidences of a genuine desire to find them.

It was agreed to adjourn until December 20, in order to give the Bureau county officials an opportunity to make further search for the missing witnesses.

Immediately preceding the adjournment John Hand, a miner from Spring Valley, who was in the first rescuing party to enter the mine following the disaster, testified that he had heard signals for assistance from entombed miners, but that he could get no help from officials or experts.

"When I insisted that something ought to be done, one of the experts gave me a can of oil and told me to hold it a while," said the witness.

Representatives of the Red Cross society here denied the charges of negligence made by Mayor Busse's investigating committee which was here yesterday.