## BUGKLES BOY VITAL WITNESS

FORMER NORFOLK LAD SAW FIRE START IN CHERRY MINE.

NEEDED IN THE INVESTIGATION

Mrs. Buckle Writes That She Is Being Delayed at Cherry Because Her Boy Must Testify in the Inquiry—She Serves Miners' Meals.

Mrs. Minnie Schwartz has received another letter from her daughter, Mrs. Marie Buckle of Cherry, Ill., formerly of Norfolk, stating that her return to Norfolk will be delayed for some time, owing to the fact that her son, Albert, has been involved in the court inquiry as to how the St. Paul mine, where over 200 miners lost their lives, caught fire. Albert, Mrs. Buckle states in her letter, was present when the hay accidentally caught fire from the oil lamp which was worn by a young boy miner at that time. The boy had been pushing a car of hay near the entrance of the mine, Mrs. Buckle says, when he inquired of a man where to place it. The man, she says, in a rough way pushed the boy toward the car, with the result that his cap, upon which dangled the small oil lamp, came in contact with the hay and a blaze immediately started. Albert, who was standing nearby, immediately made for the opening and, with the man who was probably the cause of the terrible accident, escaped to the top. The man, it is said, cannot be found and has not been seen at Cherry since the accident. The boy whose lamp started the fire was among the 200 whose bodies are still in the mine. Mrs. Buckle says the electric lights, which caused much talk, were seldom used in the mine, and has sent her mother one of the small oil lamps which is worn by the miners of the St. Paul mine.

Until she will be able to leave Cherry Mrs. Buckle is one of the hard workers among the miners. In the big building which has been put up near the mine at Cherry she helps serve the miners their meals and in every possible way is aiding her unfortunate companions. Richard, her other son, who was in the mine at the time of the fire, has not as yet been brought to the surface.

1909 Cherry Mine fire NEWS4

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