

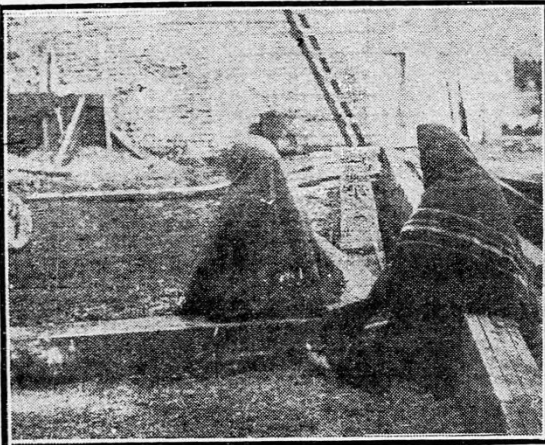
Gloom and Hope in Cherry Told in Pictures



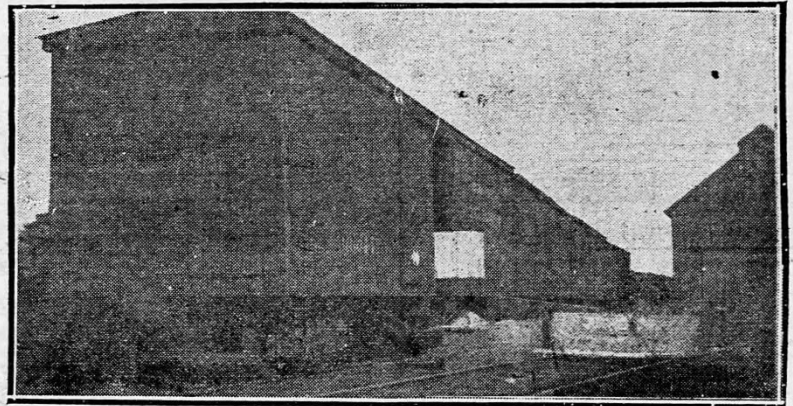
Cherry Congregational Church Which Lost All but One of Its Male Members by the Disaster. The Children Left Destitute Are Being Fed in the Church Basement.



Doctor and Nurses (Mrs. Ringold in Center) Attending Widow, (Mrs. Dobins), Whose Husband was Among First Victims Raised.



Women, Now Widows, Hoping Against Hope at the Top of the Shaft. The mine Fan Can be Seen in the Background.



Unloading the 250 Pine Coffins for Which Graves Have Already Been Dug.

CHERRY SITUATION AT PRESENT TIME

Number trapped in the mine—310.
Rescued alive—20.
Bodies recovered Monday—42.
Bodies recovered previously—59.
Still unaccounted for—189.

HERALD'S

Summary of the News

Not Inclined To Blame Anyone for Disaster

RESCUED MEN CHARY ABOUT CRITICISMS

Think Practical Miners Might Have Conducted Rescue Work Better, but Are Grateful for

WHO IS 177?



Herald and Review

Decatur, Illinois

November 23, 1909

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RESCUED MEN CHARY ABOUT CRITICISMS

Think Practical Miners Might Have Conducted Rescue Work Better, but Are Grateful for Efforts of Experts—Believe Dog Test More Reliable Than the Thermometer.

Interesting facts regarding the Cherry mine disaster and the work of rescue, not appearing in the news dispatches were related yesterday by L. W. Rundell the photographer, who was sent by The Herald to the scene of the accident.

Not the least interesting thing that came to his notice was the attitude of the rescued miners toward the mine officials and bosses. It is apparent to all that mistakes were made in handling the fire, but the men are conservative and not inclined to place blame. Mr. Rundell found no loud mouthed, demagogic blusterers among them. It is realized now that a terrible mistake was made in throwing the baled hay down into the sump and Ossa was piled on Pelion when the ventilating fan was reversed thus driving the fire down and back into the mine.

"Dog Test" Better Than Thermometer.

The men seem to feel that practical miners might have done better than the experts, but they are nevertheless appreciative of the efforts put forth for their rescue. One old miner who had been through fires and cave-ins more than once, said the miners relied more on the "dog test" rather than the thermometer to determine the temperature in a blazing mine. More than once he had seen a dog caught and lowered into a fiery pit. If the dog came up alive the rescuers plied into the hoist for where a dog can live a man can live.

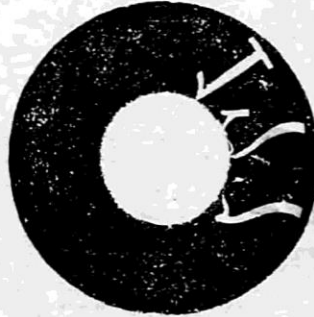
Occasionally Mr. Rundell heard one miner conversing with another regarding what he considered blunders, but the conversation generally ended with the words, "now don't say anything about it." The men seem so full of appreciation for their rescue that they are not inclined to censure, and it is freely admitted that the Cherry mine is one of the model of its kind in the state.

Rescued Men Philosophical.

Contrary to what the public generally supposed, only eight men were brought to the surface Saturday, the other twelve who were found alive, being cared for in the mine. The physicians declared that if these men were taken at once into the fresh air they would die. They are receiving the best of attention, and are allowing their lungs to become accustomed gradually to the outer atmosphere.

The quiet philosophy of some of the men rescued was not a little surprising and amusing. They took their imprisonment in a most matter of fact way, and did not seem to think their survival anything remarkable. In the crowd that was rescued were a number of old experienced Scotch-

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A MINER'S CHECK.

The owner of the above check is entombed in the St. Paul mine. This is one that he had sent upon a car of coal before the disaster. Each miner is known by his number and when he has filled his car he hangs on it his check, a little iron disk with a number on the side and a hole in the center. The only means of identifying some of the bodies has been by the checks found in the pockets.

men. While the Southern Europeans quickly became excited the others kept their heads. Having been in mine accidents before they knew what to do and it was their coolness and presence of mind that saved them.

Suffered Little From Hunger.

They smelled the approach of the "black damp" which is nothing but carbolic acid gas, after the mine was sealed up, and immediately began to raise their barriers against it. In going through the darkness they established relays, one man calling to the man behind him so that none became confused. One of the men said that in the whole six days he suffered little from hunger, during their whole six days' imprisonment and that if they had had plenty of water he believes that some of them could have held out twice that length of time.

Signs of Mortality Everywhere.

Mr. Rundell says that it is hard to realize how completely hope in Cherry has been turned to despair during the past two days. Everywhere there are the signs of mortality. Around the undertakers tent are the pine boxes on each a coffin containing the disfigured remains of some poor fellow who was found in that heaped up mass near the exit. Friends and relatives of the missing pass along the line and lifting the canvas look into the swollen face to see if it bears any resemblance to that of a loved one. The odor from the tent and from the ventilating shaft is so strong that on Sunday the crowds could stand on only two sides.

A boy who was working in the cemetery digging the trench in which the bodies were to be laid, saw the hearse come up and the men rake out a pine box. He inquired who it was and they told him—his father.

The crowds Sunday brought in on

(Continued on Second Page)

NOT INCLINED TO BLAME ANYONE FOR DISASTER

(Continued from First Page)

excursion trains, numbered thousands. It was an orderly and well behaved crowd, but it came only out of idle curiosity, and its intrusion upon the grief stricken did not make their suffering easier to bear. The guards are showing the utmost gentleness and consideration for the feelings of the families of the entombed men and they are dealt with by kindness rather than by force.

Mrs. Ringland, shown in one of the accompanying pictures, supervisor of the Visiting Nurses association of Chicago, says that Cherry is not a poor town, and all immediate want has been relieved. Practically all the miners own their houses having the foreigners usual antipathy to paying rent. They have a distrust of banks, however, and either hide their money or carry it upon their purses. In the pocket of one man was found a roll of bank notes amounting to \$500.

Seventeen Saloons in Town.

The fact that the little mining town supported 17 saloons, all of which are closed since the disaster, may or may not be an indication of the town's prosperity. The miners average between \$4 and \$5 a day and some make as high as \$8 or \$9. When the mines are closed, however, as they are a part of the year, it is found that money that should have been saved for such a contingency, has in some cases disappeared.

The brewery wagon, which formerly made a trip from Ladd daily, is now hauling passengers several times a day. Automobiles, hacks and every kind of conveyance is being pressed into service to handle the throng of sightseers and the road and railway track from early morning until dark are lack with those coming and going.

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