

WHITE MINERS' HEROISM IS PRAISED BY A NEGRO

"Kid" Clark, Globe Trotter, Anxious For His Friends To Know He Was Not One of Victims of Disas- trous Abernant Explosion.

Kid Clark, victim of the Abernant mine explosion Tuesday, was not **Kid Clark**, the globe trotter, Spanish-American war veteran and a familiar figure in Birmingham.

The negro is anxious that his friends should know of his safety, and in a letter to The News, in which he pays tribute to the American white man as "the gamest on earth," in speaking of the work of the rescue corps, he gives assurance he is alive.

"I have been down here several days," the negro writes, "visiting my daddy and Tuesday I witnessed a great horror. Every man but one on the fourteenth and fifteenth entries was killed. A miner by the name of **Kid Clark** was among the first brought out dead. Will Yancy was the only man to come off alive.

"The rescue work was perfect. The men from nearby mines came to the rescue. I have always admired the American white man for his gameness, as I was with the Ninth United States infantry in China and the Philippines when that regiment was constantly under fire. I was at Balangigie, Samar Island, when Company C of the Ninth infantry was massacred and also in

other fights on the islands, and I know of lots of cases wherein nobody but an American white man had nerve enough to venture.

"Eighteen negro miners lay dead at the bottom of the Abernant mines and the first trip up the bank boss from Davis creek asked for ten men to go to the bottom to look up the dead. Now, remember, there was not a dead white man in the mines, but ten brave, game white miners jumped into the cars, while only four of my people went down. But they went later.

"I am convinced now that the American white man is the gamest on earth, and I speak from extent of knowledge.

"I did the best I could in the way of help. I put collars on and tied neckties on all of the dead miners when they were dressed.

"I have never been down in a mine when the air was good, consequently I did not go. The coal company took charge of all the bodies and they are prepared for a decent burial. It is an awful sad sight to see two or more corpses in one house.

"I am thankful to God I am alive to write-up this disaster.

"KID CLARK,
"The Globe Trotter."