

# GIVE UP ALL HOPE THAT OTHERS OF 114 VICTIMS ARE ALIVE

Rescuers Send Word Up Shaft That  
Bodies Are Everywhere, Caught  
In Debris After Explosion.

## ANXIOUS FAMILIES STILL CROWD ABOUT WORKINGS

By United Press.

BENWOOD, W. Va., April 29.—Fifty-four bodies had been removed from the Benwood mill mine at 10 a. m., today where 114 men were entombed by a gas explosion Monday morning.

None of the 114 men who entered the slope for work Monday after the mine had been declared "safe" by an inspector escaped the fire damp fumes, the tongues of flame which followed the blast or the tons of debris which fell from walls and roofs, it is believed.

Rescue parties sent word to the surface that other bodies had been found everywhere, dispelling the last ray of hope that any of the miners had escaped death.

### EXPLOSION CAUSED BY EXCESSIVE GAS.

Isaac M. Scott, president of the Wheeling Steel Corporation, today issued a statement saying that 114 men had entered the mine on Monday morning. This was the first time the exact number of men caught in the disaster was made known.

"The explosion unquestionably came from gas," Scott said. "We have no idea how the gas developed which caused the explosion."

Scott added that the Benwood mine was an old working and had never shown signs of gas until several months ago. An air shaft was put in at Brown's Run as a protective measure when the gas was discovered.

At least 87 women were widowed and 275 children were made fatherless by the Benwood mine disaster, according to Mayor John Cox, of Benwood, who is directing relief measures for families left destitute.

### Physicians and Nurses There.

Physicians, nurses, Red Cross workers, and volunteer rescue workers today were in possession of Benwood.

A hospital has been set up near the main entrance of the mine, ready to

### Brothers Found in Mine, Clasped Arm in Arm

BENWOOD, W. Va., April 29.—Clasped arm in arm, the bodies of Rocco and Michael Capabianca, miners caught in the explosion of the Benwood mill mine, were found near the Brown's Run air shaft today.

The two brothers had escaped the roof falls and fire that followed the blast only to be overcome by fire damp within a few hundred yards of fresh air.

receive any injured. A first aid station has been established at the Brown Run shaft two miles from the main entrance.

The only hope that an "injured" miner will be brought out is that some of the men in the bowels of the earth may have had an opportunity to barricade themselves in rooms filled with fresh air before black damp circulated through the entire mine.

A temporary morgue was erected today at the Benwood opening of the mine to receive the dead when the rescue squads began their gruesome task of removing the bodies located.

### Flames Lash Workings.

Tongues of flame shot through the mine workings following the explosion and many of the bodies found are badly burned, it was reported.

While the rescue squads worked untiringly the entire population of Benwood—4,773 men women and children—huddled on a muddy hillside outside the Benwood mine gate, hoping against hope as the hours passed by that their loved ones might have escaped in the disaster.