

Believe Benwood Mine Disaster Caused By No Inspection Of Mine

Proved That Mine Inspector Did Not Go Into Mine on Morning of The Disaster

Bodies of Eighty Five of the Victims are Now Accounted For, Is The Report

New River Teams Will Take up the Work of Further Exploration Today

Wheeling, W. Va., May 2.—Information secured today tends to confirm rumors and statements that the Benwood mine explosion Monday, which cost the lives of more than 100 men was caused by the lack of mine inspection on the morning of the disaster.

It is known positively, that the supposed J. J. Boyle, fire boss and one of the victims, who is officially credited with having inspected the mine on last Monday morning and marked it safe for working, was actually Matthew V. Herron, and was employed by the company as fire boss at the Benwood mine without having had any previous experience which would qualify him to pass on such a matter of safety.

His brother-in-law, Matthew L. Craig, 236 Sycamore street, Pittsburgh, Pa., who claimed the body at the Cooley-Bentz morgue, is authority as to the identity of Herron alias Boyle.

By a careful check up of the actions of Herron on the morning of the fatal explosion, he did not make any inspection of the mine, that he did not leave his rooming house, 723 Main street, Benwood, operated by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Galb, until between 6:30 and 7 o'clock, and did not have time to make and inspection of the interior of the mine, previous to the time he rode into the mine on the trip with the foreman, George Holliday, Sr.

Wheeling, W. Va., May 2.—Work of hoisting further bodies from the Brown Run Shaft of the Benwood Mine of the Wheeling Steel Corporation will be resumed this afternoon, R. M. Lambie, chief of the state bureau of mines in charge of the rescue work, announced at noon today. Since the exploration of rescue crews late yesterday and this morning, a total of 85 victims have now been accounted for. It is believed that the others will be found this afternoon near entry eight.

Teams and sleds are ready at the mouth of the air shaft to haul the bodies to the temporary shaft, but this part of the work must be necessarily delayed because all of the bodies must go through sanitation processes before they are brought to the surface.

After a night spent in driving back the poisonous gas by erecting gratings, Chief Lambie turned over the exploration to the chief of the Bethlehem Mine Corporation with the arrangement that this afternoon the New River teams would relieve them.

Find Girl With Ear Badly Chewed

Huntington, W. Va., May 2.—Isaac Church and Charles B. Bell of this city are held here by police on a charge of assault. It is alleged that they are the men who injured Glenna Bias, a young woman found on the side walk last night, with one ear practically chewed off and several cuts about the face. Witnesses said that she was pushed from a car by two men who fled.

W. J. MARTIN AND W. A. ABBOTT FIX FIRE DAMAGES

Appraisors will fix the Amount of Damages to the Temple Theatre Building Caused By Fire.... April 3rd

A board of appraisors consisting of W. J. Martin of Hinton and W. A. Abbott, contractor of Charleston met today to appraise the damage to the Temple Theatre Building caused by the fire on the night of April 3rd. The board expected to reach an agreement today that will be satisfactory to the owners of the building and the Insurance Company.

There has been no dispute about the insurance the only question to be decided is the amount of damage which is a question to be decided by contractors, having expert knowledge of questions of this kind for that reason the above named appraisors were appointed.

If the board of two should not agree, which is not at all likely, a third member of the board will be appointed.

Mercury to Cross Sun

The planet Mercury will pass slowly over the sun on the afternoon of May 7, appearing as a small black dot on its brilliant surface when viewed with the proper telescope, but it will be invisible to the naked eye, announces Edwin B. Frost, director of Yerkes Observatory here.

Since 1610 Mercury has crossed the sun 40 times. On May 7 it will be 51,880,000 miles from the earth and its angular diameter projected upon the sun will be about one one hundred and sixtieth that of the sun.

At 3:42.5 minutes, central time, the edge of the planet will touch the northeastern edge at a point 58 degrees from the northern point of the sun's disk. It will occur within the same minute for the whole country, but the hour will be 4 P. M. for regions using Eastern time, 2 P. M. for Mountain time and 1 P. M. for Pacific time. Three minutes later Mercury's image will fall wholly upon the sun. It will thereafter move southwesterly across the sun at the rate of one diameter of Mercury in every three minutes. The end of the