

## MINER OVERCOME IN RUSH OF WATER

Lansford, Pa., Dec. 12. (AP)—Joseph Valenski, 60, a contract miner, was overcome by a rush of water and coal at the third level of the No. 9 colliery of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation company, this afternoon. Joseph Shirla, 35, of Coaldale, was badly injured by the same rush, but was rescued before he was engulfed. Four other men working in the same compartment escaped when the rush of coal and water swept in another direction.

It was at first feared that four men had been trapped, but when the rush subsided, it was found Valenski had been forced into an air gangway but that the others had reached another chute higher than the source of the slush.

When the cry was raised that the water had broken through, Earl Cunningham, a bottom man at the fourth level, deserted his post and ran through the galley warning the men. This act saved several lives, as the employes in the lower level made their escape through a mule-way, none too soon, as the water came pouring down the shaft and overflowed the sump.

Valenski leaves a widow and eight children.

1927 Joseph Shirla rescued from flooded mine



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