

MINE HOLDS 24 BODIES

Mather Colliery Being Cleared To Recover Blast Dead

MATHER, Pa., May 27 (AP) — Thorough search of the Mather mine during the last two days has revealed no more living miners and only a few additional bodies have been found, mine officials said today. Upwards of 200 men lost their lives when an explosion wrecked the workings a week ago Saturday.

A total of 172 bodies have been removed, representatives of the Mather Collieries company, operator of the mine, said. At least 24 men were unaccounted for and it was believed their bodies would be located when large piles of rock and coal, loosened by the blast, were cleared away from the mine floor. The work of removing this debris is already under way.

John Wade, 38, Negro miner who was found alive Friday, died yesterday of pneumonia in a Waynesburg hospital. He was stricken suddenly and was unable to resist the disease because of his weakened condition, physicians said. Wade was in the mine for 146 hours after the explosion, and during the greater part of that time he wandered about the underground tunnels and work rooms, according to his own story, as told after he had been found about two miles back in the mine by a rescue crew.