

FIVE MINERS TRAPPED IN HUGE ROCK SLIDE

**Fear Four of Entombed Men Are
Dead; Begin Rescue Work**

Stockton, Cal., Sept. 4. (AP)—Tons of rock loosened in a cave-in on the 1450 foot level of the Calaveras Copper Company at Copperopolis, trapped five men this morning at 9 o'clock. An hour later, one miner had been rescued, crushed badly but alive.

J. Davis, shift boss, began immediate rescue operations, and sent word to Angles camp for physicians and other medical assistance.

Miners returning to the top works in the 1450 foot level, report hearing screams and groans of one of the trapped men. Others, they fear, were killed.

Of the five men caught in the cave-in, four live in Copperopolis, with families. The fifth is a resident of Angles Camp. A large crowd, including families of miners, are at the mine, awaiting reports regarding progress of rescue work.

1929 One Calaveras Copper miner rescued one hour after cavein

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SLIDE ENTOMBS FIVE IN MINE

By Associated Press.

STOCKTON, Cal., Sept. 5.—Some-where in the depths of the Calaveras copper mine at Copperopolis Thursday five miners were entombed under 100 tons of rock and dirt.

The cavein was believed to have crushed the life out of at least four. The fifth man, Joe Mandez, a Mexican, was still alive early Thursday, although numerous slides so hampered the work of rescue that it was feared he would be dead when help reached him.

A sixth man, Ompre Valle, was rescued.

The men were trapped at the 1,550-foot level of the mine while ascending the shaft Wednesday. Tons of rocks and earth, thought to have been undermined by recent blasting operations, roared down upon them in a sudden avalanche that cut off all retreat.

Two mine foremen, rising to the surface in a hoist, escaped the cavein and gave an alarm. Offshift workers swelled the ranks of the rescue crews until 200 men were at the mine digging in frantic haste. In an hour Valle was brought to the surface, crushed and mangled, but still alive.

Spurred by the moans of Mendez, rescuers reached him 11 hours after the cavein, only to be driven back by another slide. A heavy boulder pinned Mendez down and he was unable to move.

The four believed dead are: Joe King, mucker foreman; Ed Bixler, Gonzalo Gonzales and Lee Lopez.

Although there was no letup in the digging, mine officials said there was little hope that the men would be found alive. Two or three days will probably elapse before the underground workings are reached.

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