

CARBON MONOXIDE FATAL TO BOOTLEG COAL MINER

12 Others Are Overcome in Shaft Near Shamokin

The 25th bootleg coal hole fatality in the anthracite region since Jan. 1 was written on the records today in the death of Oscar Peek, 28, former Coal Township High School football player, who was suffocated at the bottom of a 150-foot shaft late yesterday near Shamokin.

Twelve workers were overcome with Peek when a gasoline pump blew out a gasket in the coal hole and filled the shaft with carbon monoxide gas.

Two members of the rescue squad from the Susquehanna Collieries descended into the hole with gas masks, and brought out the victims.

Jeff Peek, the dead man's brother, Joseph Pincoski and Edward Slatcoski, who were working with Oscar Peek, were detained at Shamokin Hospital.

Edward Caleskie, Lewis Borgetti and George Paczkowski were treated at the hospital and permitted to go home.

First aid was administered at the scene to Lawrence Lukaski, Joseph Osiwalla, Arthur Roth, Peter Kramlich, Paul Cheslock and John Yadoski.

Peek's death was the third bootleg coal disaster in the Shamokin area within the past week.

1939 Three overcome by monoxide rescued from bootleg mine



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