

**PAIR SAVED IN
MINE ACCIDENT**

**Two Pine Grove Miners
Trapped 15 Hours in
Bootleg Hole**

Two Pine Grove miners were rescued alive yesterday after being trapped 15 hours in a bootleg mine operation near Branchdale, where a succession of independent mining accidents occurred during the current week, including one fatality.

James Kimmerling, 50, and Rep Batz, 32, were found uninjured but suffering greatly from cold and shock after they had been trapped in cramped quarters following the fall of many tons of coal.

The two miners were working in a gangway 20 feet in from the bottom of a shaft when the bottom fell out of their working place when it was driven into old workings. As the bottom dropped, the mine collapsed. Kimmerling and Batz stepped to a narrow ledge and clung there while rescuers worked 15 long hours to remove debris, place timber and reopen the workings to reach the trapped men, who aided by directing activities of the rescuers.

Veteran miners who assisted in timbering the old workings and driving a new tunnel to reach the men marveled they escaped with their lives.

1940 Two miners rescued from bootleg mine after 15 hours

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