

All 73 Victims Of The Willow Grove Mine Explosion Are Given Up For Dead Today

State Of Ohio Prepares To Pay Death Claims Of Nearly \$400,000 For Tragedy

69 OF THE NUMBER ARE ENTOMBED IN MINE

More Than 100 Others, Most Of Them Gassed Or Injured, Are In Hospitals

By The Associated Press

St. Clairsville, O., March 18.—All 73 victims of the Willow Grove mine explosion were given up for dead today and the state prepared to pay death claims of nearly \$400,000.

Hope for 69 entombed coal miners faded 48 hours after the explosion. Four others were known dead. Officials reported in another 24 hours they could break through the poisonous gases and rock barriers, which blanketed the trapped men.

More than 100 other miners, most of them gassed or injured, were rescued.

Hopes For Rescue Fade

St. Clairsville, O., March 18.—The number of men unaccounted for in the Willow Grove coal mine disaster was placed at 69 yesterday and an official said "hope of reaching them alive is dwindling fast."

"After a careful check it appears 44 men are entombed in the 22-west chamber and 25 others in adjacent works," reported W. H. McWilliam of the Hanna Coal Company of Cleveland, owners of the mine.

The men were trapped by an explosion shortly after 11 a. m. Saturday. Four others were killed and more than 100 gassed or injured.

Officials of the coal company earlier estimated only 44 were trapped. John Owens, president of the C. I. O. United Mine Workers of Ohio, reported the figure was 69 after a check of miners' lamps showed that many missing.

Owens said, "it will be a miracle if any of them come out alive."

Miss Rowan Chosen Queen Of Press Club

Jonesboro, March 18.—Marzee Ann Rowan, representing the Agri Club has been selected Press Club Queen at Arkansas State College. Miss Rowan is the daughter of Mrs. W. C. Holt of Jonesboro.

She will have the honor seat at the Journalism Banquet Saturday night, March 30. Nearly 200 high school students from Northeast Arkansas and Southeast Missouri are expected to be the guests of the college at the banquet and festivities held in connection with Journalism Day.

Individual contests will be held in news, sports, headline and feature writing, and copy-reading. Medals will be awarded to each first-place winner in each individual contest. Certificates of merit will be given lower place winners.

Silver cups will be awarded winners in the printed and mimeographed paper classes. Certificates will be given place winners. The deadline for receiving papers is March 26.

Home Of Mr. And Mrs. F. A. Rhine, Sr., Damaged By Fire

Flames Hit Kitchen, Dining Room And Bath Room; Others Damaged By Smoke

The home of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Rhine, Sr., of South Ninth street, was damaged by fire at 5:45 this morning. Firemen fought the flames for more than an hour. Mr. Rhine told firemen that he believed lightning struck the house and set it on fire.

The flames and damage were confined largely to the kitchen, dining room and bathroom, although some damage was done to other rooms by smoke and water. The amount of the damage was not immediately de-