

REGION MINER MEETS DEATH IN BOOTLEG HOLE

Minersville Man Numbered
as Industry's 22nd Vic-
tim of Year

The bootleg mine industry claimed its twenty-second victim since the first of the year yesterday morning when the body of Thomas Oplansky, 44, of Minersville, was recovered from a coal hole near Primrose, Schuylkill County.

Oplansky's companion, Stephen Keysock, of Forresville, Schuylkill County, was freed from a mine a short time after a first fall which occurred late Thursday afternoon when the two men were at work in a gangway. Keysock is a patient in Pottsville Hospital suffering from injuries of the right ankle and body bruises.

Keysock sobbed hysterically when taken to the hospital and told attendants there how thankful he was to be alive. He said that he could hear his companion and could talk to him for a time, but later when the rescue work began, he could no longer hear him. Oplansky died of a broken neck and serious chest and body injuries.

Shortly after Keysock was rescued from the mine, several other falls occurred and it is believed these caused the death of his companion. Rescuers had little hope of rescuing Oplansky alive after the second fall.

Oplansky, a World War veteran and a well known member of the Minersville American Legion Post, is survived by his widow and four children.

1941 Stephen Keysock rescued following a cavein in Anthracite mine

