

ALL RESCUED

**Third Major Accident at
Kent No. 2 Mine in
Eight Months**

In the third major accident in less than eight months at the ill-fated Kent No. 2 mine of the Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal Company near McIntyre, a fall of rock about 180 feet from the main heading, injured one miner and trapped three others for five and one half hours late yesterday afternoon.

Edward Brink, 23, of Aultman, who was caught by the outside edge of the fall at 3:30 p. m. just as the men were ready to quit work and leave the mine, is in good condition in the Indiana Hospital this morning. He was extricated after three hours of rescue work and was rushed to the hospital suffering from possible fractures of the left hip and right foot.

Two and one-half hours later, crews succeeded in clearing an opening to the other three miners trapped by the fall. They were uninjured and were brought to the surface at 9:00 last night.

The three men were John T. Wysocki, 27, of Spangler, Gerald S. Swan, 54, of Aultman, and Fred Fogle, 30, of Mineral Point R. D. 1. Yesterday marked the first day of employment for Fogle with the R. & P. Company. All four men in the room were working as conveyor loaders. Swan and Fogle returned to work in the mine this morning.

The fall, according to company officials, was approximately 30 feet wide and 50 feet in depth. It occurred nearly four and one-half miles from the surface. Directing the work of rescue crews were George L. Smith, general manager, R. J. Craig, production manager, and W. E. Wardrop, state inspector of mines.

Rescue crews worked to reach the trapped men from two different places in the mine. One unit, digging through the 50-foot fall of debris, reached the Brink after three hours of work and extricated him. They then continued to push on toward the other three miners.

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1941 Three miners trapped in Kent No 2 mine rescued

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Another crew, however, had been boring a tunnel meanwhile through a 39-inch coal seam from a room adjoining the one in which the men were trapped.

While the work was going on, members of the rescue crew and company officials were able to talk with the entombed men. The air was good throughout, they informed their rescuers, and their only danger lay in the possibility that the fall might begin to "creep" toward them at any time.

Shortly before 9 p. m., the crews completed the task of driving an 18-foot tunnel through the seam of coal and reached the trapped men. After examination by a company physician, they were permitted to return to their homes.

Work of the rescue crews was highly praised by the company officials, who lauded the skill and efficiency shown by them in the operation.

The same mine was the scene on June 30 of a gas explosion which cost the lives of seven men, and last December 31 five miners were rescued there after being trapped behind a fall of rock for 18 hours. The son of Gerald Swan, who was rescued last night, was one of the five entombed on that occasion.

1941 Three miners trapped in Kent No 2 mine rescued

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