

### HEROIC WORK BY RESCUERS SAVES YOUNG MINER'S LIFE

Centralia Youth  
Rescued From Coal  
Hole After Being  
Covered By Rush

Edward Stutsavage, 22-year-old  
Centralia miner of Centralia, today  
rescued from the wreckage of  
a mine shaft, after being  
trapped in a coal hole for several  
days in reaching him from a coal  
hole at Centralia, Penn., he had  
been covered for several days.

Rescue crews were quick but  
working from beneath a mass of  
rocks, and had to dig in a hopeless  
struggle to reach the boy in the  
underground. Stutsavage was taken  
to hospital after being rescued from  
his situation. His wounds were re-  
ported good and when doctors were  
able to determine the extent of his  
injuries.

Stutsavage told a brief incident.  
Michael Adams, 28, son of Chris-  
topher Adams, 64, and of his  
wife in their independent mine, in-  
curred in an accident and was  
of the Centralia-Adams operation.  
Working between 7:30 and 8:30  
Stutsavage was a shift worker  
later and some without warning  
and "like a load of coal" he was  
driven toward the hole, yesterday  
afternoon.

Adams, who at the time was  
said to have been struck in his  
left hand, getting stuck in his  
arms in position, was covered only  
for his knees by Stutsavage. He  
broke down and almost completely  
fainted.

The miner kept on to the rock,  
pushing in his hands and clinging  
there to save his situation. He be-  
gan to dig with his hands, searching  
the way toward the hole.

"Thank," he shouted back as he  
saw the lantern dipping.

"And I'll surprise you when an  
accident took the shape of death."  
"Help me, Michael. Get me out  
of here!"

With the knowledge that his  
brother-in-law was still alive he  
in great danger of suffocation. Al-  
though Stutsavage had often seen at  
times, he managed to get into the  
hole and escape out and breathing  
from Stutsavage through the hole.

Reaching the surface, Stutsavage  
mentioned the incident. A Centralia  
mine worker told the rescue work  
was started. They had to proceed  
cautiously and under lanterns, be-  
cause of the ever-present danger of  
a rockfall and the possibility  
of fire. When Adams had almost  
recovered only one day to rest at  
home.

The story was told today about  
how one of our miners, Tony Stuts-  
avage, was rescued from a coal hole  
after being trapped for several days.  
The young man in New York State  
being covered for a several days,  
remained in that position, holding  
on to the edge of the hole, and  
after other miners came.

It was Adams, working between  
to handle the situation and con-  
tinue despite the ever-worsening con-  
ditions. Finally succeeded in re-  
scuing Stutsavage and took him to  
hospital at 8:30. Stutsavage, a  
worker and then a piece of timber  
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## 1943 Edward Stutsavage rescued from coal hole after several hours



## Heroic Work By Rescuers Saves Miner

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which had fallen across his shoulder.

So tightly was he wedged beneath the debris, rescuers considered it a miracle that he escaped with his life.

"Don't! You'll break my leg," he cautioned as they first attempted to pull him free without uncovering him altogether.

Two other factors combined to aid in keeping him alive. One was that he wore what miners call a "hard boiled" hat, the peak of which prevented the earth from covering his face, and, the other, that he further shielded himself by throwing his arm in front of his face as he fell beneath the rush.

Stutscavage is a son of Edward Stutscavage, Sr., east Center street, Centralia.

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1943 Edward Stutscavage rescued from coal hole after several hours

