

HELPER, UTAH

Kenilworth Mine Explosion Kills Three, Nine Other Miners Are Seriously Burned

EDITORIALS
AND
COMMENTS
by the editor

DANGER LURKS WHERE BOOZE AND GASOLINE ARE MIXED

Tragedy struck a Carbon county home last Sunday afternoon when young Betty Thomas, 13, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Thomas of Peerless was the victim of a hit-run driver. The youngster was killed instantly as she was innocently pushing her bicycle alongside the Spring Canyon road toward her home in Peerless.

Sunday's fatal accident is all the more serious and sad when one realizes the young girl and her companion were using every possible means of highway safety. They were over three feet off the pavement and on the opposite side of the road from the driver of the death car. The only way the accident could have happened under the same circumstances was exactly the way it did happen. The death-driver had to drive directly across the pavement and off the opposite side of the road to hit the girl. An investigation revealed that was what did happen.

Riding in the death car, beside the driver, was a man who has appeared before a local judge, plead guilty to being drunk, paid his fine and released from custody of the sheriff. It has been alleged by investigating officers and witnesses that the death driver was also strongly under the influence of liquor.

A man would have to be under the influence of alcohol or have a grudge against a person to run down an innocent girl of thirteen, kill her instantly by hurling her 36

"WELL APPLIED ROCK DUSTING AVERTED MAJOR DISASTER," SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON DECLARES

Sixteen men miraculously escaped death and one of the most modern coal mines in the west was saved from what could have been a disastrous mine explosion, when a bounce occurred in the third dip of the Independent Coal and Coke company mine at Kenilworth about 1:15 p.m., Wednesday, where a shovel and cutting crew were at work. Twelve miners, members of the 16-

According to Geo. F. Jackson, mine man crew received varying degrees of burns from the flaming coal dust, superintendent, displaced coal from the bounce shorted a D.C. cable on a shovel, causing an arc which set suspended coal dust on fire in the working place.

"There is no question but that well applied rock dusting in the workings of the mine confined the fire and prevented it from spreading to other parts of the mine," Supt. Jackson said.

The uninjured men of the crew immediately applied first aid and assisted in rescue work of the injured miners and additional aid was immediately summoned and the burned men were removed to the outside and taken to the company's hospital where extra medical aid was received from Helper and Price.

According to Mr Jackson there was no fire in the mine other than the suspended burning coal dust and the clothes of the workmen in the accident that occurred.

Following are the miners who received burns and who were treated at the Kenilworth and Price hospitals receiving treatment:

Richard Sarimond, Nick Markakis, Alcario Quintana, Arthur Smith, Ivan Jensen, Clem Hawks, David Bennett, Arthur Lermusiaux, George Archebeque, Gilmer Nielsen, Russel Jackson and Filipe Armijo.

Following the statement issued to the Journal about 8 p.m. Wednesday it has been reported three of the burned men taken from the Kenilworth mine succumbed at the Price Hospital where seven of the most seriously injured were taken following treatment at the Kenilworth hospital.

First to die was Gilmer Nielsen, whose death was reported about 9 p.m. Wednesday. At 2:15 a.m. today Russell Jackson died, followed by Clem Hawks who succumbed at 5 this morning. Condition of the other four miners confined at the Price hospital is considered critical.

Of the twelve men burned in the explosion, seven were removed to the Price hospital; four are confined at the Kenilworth hospital and one was released after receiving emergency treatment and sent home.

WORK STARTED ON HELPER'S NEW RESERVOIR

Active construction on Helper's new 2 million gallon reservoir was begun recently by the T. H. McGraw company of Provo and Salt Lake City. At present the contractors are building a road to the reservoir site, which is located about a half mile southwest of the present storage tank.

The new reservoir, a Federal Works Agency project, will cost \$43,217.34 which is the amount of the McGraw company's bid. The federal government makes a direct grant of 50 percent of the cost of the project and the city is obligated for the remaining portion of the

SCOFIELD DAM TO BE RUSHED GRANGER ADVISES

The Scofield Dam is expected to be completed in nine months, Congressman Walter K. Granger, was informed recently in Washington.

According to a communication from Mr Granger the dam has been placed on the basis of an essential war project by the War Manpower Commission and the authority has been granted to work three shifts of men to rush the project through to completion. Construction on the dam is about nine months behind schedule, Mr Granger said.

The project was approved by President Roosevelt June 24, 1943, and was considered a "must" by the Bureau of Reclamation, who had declared the old dam unsafe and subject to failure any time. Conservative estimates were made of the direct and indirect damage that could be done to war industries below the dam. \$17,500,000 was the suggested amount of damage.

The W. W. Clyde Construction company of Springville has the contract for rebuilding the dam.

FORTY & EIGHT WILL BE TYPED AS BLOOD DONORS

At the last general meeting of Voiture No. 416 of the Forty & Eight held March 9 at the Queen City cafe in Price, the membership voted to submit themselves to a blood-typing project and stand ready to donate blood whenever an emergency arose. This offer was made since there is not a blood bank in the county or in the state.

Not only are the 40 & 8 members going to have their blood typed, but

1945 Kenilworth Mine explosion NEWS

Clipped By:
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Sep 11, 2025