

Men Freed From Mine by Woman

Miner's Wife
Leads Rescue

TALACHE, Idaho, May 29. (AP)—Three miners were rescued unhurt today by a shovel-wielding miner's wife after the trio had been trapped by a cave-in 75 feet from the mouth of a side-hill claim near this old mining community on Lake Pend Oreille, Bonner county, sheriff's officers reported.

They said Mrs. Floyd Watts grabbed a shovel and headed into the tunnel for the eight-foot-wide cave-in while her husband hurried to a phone at a lake resort to call for help.

No Road In

They said John Solomon, Frank Hubbard and a man identified as Swanson were trapped when recent heavy rains loosened dirt and debris and sent it crashing down across the 2100-foot-long tunnel, some 75 feet from the mouth as they installed roof timbers.

By the time help arrived, Mrs. Watts, covered with mud from her one-woman rescue mission, was nearing the trapped men, officers said. A short time later, with some male help, rescuers broke through the cave-in and the trapped men crawled out shaken but unhurt.

There is no road to the claim and it must be reached by boat. Miners and their families live on a big barge, anchored on the lake, some 30 feet below the hillside tunnel entrance.

1959 Woman led rescue of three Talache Idaho miners

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