Two Local Men Saved At Gimlet Colliery Today

Joseph Dragon, Kulpmont, and Steve Kieszki, Mount Carmel, Closed in Yesterday

SQUEEZE CLOSED MANWAY

Rescue Forces Worked Inside and Other Forces Sank Shaft From the Outside

After being entombed twenty hours in a manway of the Gimlet colliery of the Shipman Coal Company, between here and Shamokin, Joseph Dragon, 1108 Eleventh street, and Stephen Kieszki, Mount Carmel, were rescued at six o’clock this morning in good physical condition little the worse for their harrowing experience.

Safety Man

Together with John Gill, Kulpmont, they worked in the east section and went up a manway to blast out a pillar. Mr. Gill was appointed the safety man and was instructed to remain at a heading as the others went up the manway to accomplish the task at hand.

Squeeze Closed Manway

In about a half hour Mr. Gill thought he should have heard something of his “Buddies” and went to investigate when he found that there had been a squeeze on the manway and top broke and closed the passage, entombing his two fellow workmen.

Went For Help

Mr. Gill went to the gangway and spread an alarm that two men were entombed behind the fall. Many miners were quickly assembled to start rescue work. The men were divided into gangs of from nine to ten, and each worked two hours, when they would be relieved by other gangs. Only two men could work at the face at the one time, so that it was necessary that these two men work with all the speed and power possible while there. When they became tired other men took their places so that the work of the gang was always moving as rapidly as possible.

Drive Pillar Hole

About 25 feet of heading was opened and then they drove up a pillar hole 50 feet up the pitch. All day and then all last night they worked until six.

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