

NINE ENTOMBED MINERS WERE RESCUED ALIVE AFTER SIX DAYS UNDER GROUND

Nine men and boys, who had been entombed in the Foster tunnels of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company since last Monday, were rescued alive at 3:30 yesterday afternoon.

Fully 5000 persons lined the ropes, 100 feet from the tunnel's mouth, when at 3:30 o'clock a miner came out and whispered to Sheriff Hort-neady that the men had been reached and were all alive. The news spread quickly throughout the big assem- blage, but not a sound was heard. The crowd stood as though spellbound. The unexpected had occurred and the men had been reached alive after they had been given up as dead.

The rescue was made possible by the two great electric pumps, which had been working steadily for the last 24 hours to empty the gangway of water. Sunday morning the water had been lowered enough for the operation of the raft. Foreman George Humphreys then showed the stuff of which underground heroes are made. Climbing down Chute 26 from the monkey he mounted the raft and with hardly enough space between it and the collar for him to navigate, he worked along in a crouching position until he reached Chute 27. He called up this chute and Elmer Har- ron, a miner, shouted back to the party "We are all alive and in good shape."

Other Rescuers Arrive
About the time Humphreys reached the men through the gangway, other rescuers had completed a cross-cut from Chute 26 to 27 above the monkey and the overhead party was thus able to reach the entombed men about the same time. Five colliery ambulances with a corps of physicians, were immediately dispatched to the scene and the work of removing the men to safety was commenced. They were brought through the overhead work- ings down Chute 23 to the gangway. Here Dr. J. H. Young, the company physician, Dr. E. E. Shifferstein, super- intendent of the Coaldale State Hos- pital, and several other physicians and first-aid corps gave the men their first nourishment in the shape of a little hot soup.

The men were then placed on stretchers, although a number wanted to walk, and then taken to the tunnel mouth. They were wrapped in blank- ets, their faces covered with gauze to protect their eyesight from the sud- den light, and whirled away in pairs to the Coaldale Hospital, less than a half mile away.

John McAndrews and Joseph Mur- phy were the first two to reach the surface at 4:10. Then followed Elmer Herron and John Boner. Herron was in good condition and wanted to walk, and also asked for a cigar, stating that he had not had a smoke for a week, but both requests were refused.

Then, in order came Peter Lemmick, Charles Matokis, Dominick Holehek, Joe Lagonis and Dominic Dodori. All the men raised their heads from the stretchers, as though to tell their waiting relatives and friends that they were "out of the valley of the shadow." The rescuers had worked so rapidly that at 4:30 all of the men were out of the mine and on their way to the hospital. An all-inspiring sight was presented when, following Dodori out of the mine came a line of 75 miners all with their lamps lit-- a fitting climax to one of the greatest rescue acts ever performed.

Herron Leader of Party
At the hospital the men were given little chance to talk as the physicians were anxious to prevent any reaction setting in. They were again served hot soups, after which they all went to sleep. It is understood that Herron was the leader of the party en- couraging his imprisoned comrades all through the trying ordeal. The entombed men spent most of their time in Chute No. 27, near the monkey. They had plenty of good air, the black damp not coming within a breast of them. During the six days of their imprisonment the only thing they had to eat was three cakes of "sunshine" a lighting material, composed of paraf- fin and about the size of a cake of soap. This was dealt out to the men in small sections in order to make it last as long as possible. They were

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INTERVIEW WITH RESCUED MINER

(By United Press Leased Wire)
TAMAQUA, Pa., Oct. 4.

After a night's rest under good conditions, in the State Hospital at Coal Dale, the nine men who were rescued from the Foster tunnel of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company at that place after being imprisoned in a gangway behind a thick barrier of coal, rock and earth, have gained considerable strength, and they will soon be able to tell of their horrible experiences. Two of them, Lemmick and one of the youths, who were more ill than the others, and for whose lives fears were entertained, have shown signs of improvement and hope is growing that they too will soon be out of danger.

"We were all, at work. We had just unloaded a car of laggings when it happened. The air knocked us unconscious for a second or two. When we came to our senses we went to the gangway to see what it was."

Elmer Herron, one of the nine men rescued yesterday from the Foster tunnel, today was able to make a statement as to what happened when they were entombed.

"We thought we could get out, so we climbed along the air pipe till we came to the chute where it happened. We climbed through four chutes till we saw there was no place to get out. Then we got back up into the monkey, where the rescuers found us."

"We had a running stream of clum- water to drink and a few little crusts of bread in our cans, and some meat and chicken bones. We had miners' "Sunshine" to chew. We were not very hungry."

"We had light from 11:30 a. m. Monday till 11:35 a. m. Tuesday when black-damp put out the lamps. We struck all the matches we had trying to keep the lamps burning, but after- that we could not keep a light. We heard the rescuers working but they seemed so far away we did not be- lieve they were after us."

Herron said they prayed continual- ly that they would get out.

GENERAL ELECTRIC STRIKE ON TODAY

(By United Press Leased Wire)
SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Oct. 4.

Two thousand employes of the Gen- eral Electric Company's plant here walked out on strike today after fail- ure to obtain an eight-hour working day.

The strike came after the griev- ance committee of the Metal Trades Alliance had accepted the company's order of a 52½ hour week. The men refused to accept the compromise, repudiated the committee's action, and struck.

NEW CHAIR AT THE HIGH SCHOOL

Funeral Director and Furniture Dealer, William R. Irvin, north Oak street, this morning placed a consig- nment of new chairs in the High School Building at Third and Market streets. A dozen typewriting chairs were placed in the commercial depart- ment and the others were placed in the Directors' room.

ECONOMICAL HOUSEWIVES

are busy now selecting their Carpets at Grossman's Opening; the prices are so much lower than elsewhere, the stock is fresh, containing all the latest patterns. If you are not ready to buy now, you can make your selec- tion at these special prices, pay us a small deposit, and we will hold them for your convenience.

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VARANO SPECIALS

Coffee, 2 lb. for 25c.
Sardines, 8 for 25c.

MINERS RESCUED

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compelled to drink the mine water, which they did in very sparing quantities. By economizing with their lamps they were able to have light until noon Saturday.

Rescue Considered Marvelous

The rescue is considered one of the most marvelous in the history of mining. It was the general opinion that while some of the men might have reached the breast, others of the employees working in the gangway would be swept away by the flood. Leading mine workers were optimistic until Saturday, when the announcement came that black damp had been discovered. Then they relinquished all hope, feeling that if the men had escaped the flood they would have been overcome by gas.

Several of the men, apparently of strong constitution and vitality, talked cheerfully to their stretcher bearers, while being taken from the mine, and from this source it was learned that fish oil and a few crushed chicken bones had made up the principal diet of the men until Thursday on which day the latter delicacy had been devoured, and the fish oil composition was the only item on the bill of fare.

Miner Saves Dinner Pail

Each of the men entombed had in his pockets several cakes of a fish oil substance known as "sunshine cakes", a form of paraffin that is used by mine workers in lamps, and which gives a smokeless flame.

One of the entombed men, John Bononus, has for many years held a reputation for his enormous appetite and the size of the dinner pail that is required to contain his midday meal. Having just taken his pail in his hand shortly before noon Monday, when the rush of water forced in the roof, Bononus, according to the story of his companions, ran with others to chute No. 27, but still kept a firm grip on the dinner pail.

Hours later, when the first pangs of hunger assailed the entombed men, Bononus extracted from the pail many pieces of bread other articles of food found in most miners' cans and, above all, the greater portion of a roast chicken. All of the food was shared among the men, but the chicken was saved until the last. Not knowing how long they would be held pri-

soners, the men partook of their food in small quantities, and after carefully taking off all the meat from the bones, placed the latter back in the dinner pail for a reserve supply.

Cakes of the oil were also carefully hoarded and the men chewed on them for hours extracting what little nourishment they contained. The paraffin cakes, however served to moisten the men's throats. More than 48 hours before their rescue as nearly as the men could determine the time, the reserve supply of chicken bones was passed around, and these, according to the men who could talk, were ground between their teeth and partaken of in small quantities. For the last two days, however, the men declared they had been without food and care was exercised at the hospital in giving nourishment.

Joseph Murphy, the youngest of the nine men entombed, had finished his work as driver boy when the fall came on Monday and was sitting at the mouth of the tunnel for his chum. He reentered the mine on a coal car "just for the ride", as he said, and was caught behind the fall of rock.

Since getting to the gangway it has been found that the spill had worked forward into the gangway instead of backward. Back of breast 26 it is practically clear except the body of water. The four mules which stood with the cars were found dead. Word from the hospital at a late hour yesterday was that all the men were resting easy and that no serious results are anticipated.

General Inside Foreman Wilden, who had been on the ground almost constantly since Monday, taking his meals at the tunnel, left for his home at Lansford as soon as the men had been recovered. So immense were the crowds at the mouth of the tunnel when news of the recovery of the men had been reported that trolley traffic was dropped and hundreds of automobiles were pressed into service. At the morning services in the Catholic churches throughout the valley Masses were said and prayers offered for the safety of the men.

HORLICK'S

The Original

• Malted Milk

Unless you say "HORLICK'S"
you may get a Substitute.

Mount Carmel Item
October 4, 1915