

MINER'S BODY FOUND AFTER 17-DAY SEARCH

Seventeen days after the rush of mud, culm, rock and general debris, following the collapse of part of the bottom of a small reservoir, above a mine breach over the workings of Slope No. 7 of the Park Place Colliery, an operation of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, the body of John Koszelnik, has been recovered.

The ill-fated mine worker with Frank Kasian, of Mahanoy City, and 14 others was in the mine when the sudden rush came. All but two referred to escaped injury and reached a point of safety. Kasian was engulfed being entombed for 30 hours. He was rescued with but slight injury after having been enclosed for 30 hours.

Koszelnik was swept away from the point where Kasian was caught. The rescue force kept steadily on the job, working in three relays for eight hours, each. Since December 22nd they kept at it unceasingly. Every foot that was gained was accomplished with greatest danger. It is estimated that 20 car loads of "stuff" was removed daily.

The recovery of the man's cap and can, two days before the body was reached, showed the rescuers that they were close to the realization of their quest. It was found in the gangway and from its position, the rescuers believe that Koszelnik was running toward a chute when he was crushed to earth by a fall and probably died almost instantly.

Had he reached the chute he sought he would have been safe, but even had met with privations that he could hardly have survived. To make the rescue work less hazardous after the first rush of water into the working of the slope, the contents were entirely drained from the reservoir.

The body was found but five feet from the safety chute which he sought. His head was badly crushed. His left leg was fractured and his chest was crushed in. The body was taken in charge by Undertaker Kruskowski, of Mahanoy City, who yesterday shipped it to Philadelphia for burial. The deceased lived at 2430 Market street in the latter city and lost his life about six weeks after he went to Schuylkill coal regions in search of work. His widow and three children survive.