Torture of Years Shows in Eyes of Rescued Miners as They Leave Living Tomb

Ripoll, Ind., June 6.—Jim Bertillo, Joe Bernardi and Frank Maberto went to sleep for 24 hours today, under doctors orders.

They were rescued late last night after being entombed for 80 hours in the cave-in at New Mine near here.

More than 2,500 people waited at the shaft for their rescue. Jack Ogilvie, head of the rescue crew, said at two o’clock that at any time after four the men would be reached.

Sigh followed sigh as hour followed hour and the cage brought only heavy timbers and yellow clay.

The blow of each hammer driving nails into the cage was heard by everyone, so tense was the silence.

“I’ll get them out tonight sure,” Ogilvie promised.

At ten o’clock he kept his promise. Frank Maberto, eldest of the three victims, came up in the bucket first. He was wrapped in blankets and supported by rescuers. The crowd, begged by the constable, to be quiet, was as silent as, if in prayer.

But when the other two men came into sight, joy got the best of them.

“Hello Jim!” and “Hello Joe,” they shouted in unison.

The three men were hurried into a waiting machine and taken home.

As the car went down the street, Bertillo’s wife leaned out of the car “hello, hello,” she called to her neighbors. “Jim’s home! Jim’s here!”

The neighbors surged from their homes. They followed the blanketed figures into the house. When the men were seated in chairs, the blankets were taken from their heads. Relatives threw their arms around them and kissed them.

Torture Shown in Eyes.

The men smiled radiant smiles. “Hello! Hello!” they said. The torture of a hundred years was in their eyes and faces. The visitors were so happy they hugged each other.

“I feel fine,” Maberto said. “I get cold in the mine, I tell them through the pipe. They send me hot soup and I sleep against our pony. He keep me warm.”

They fed the pony hot soup and gin, too, they said, and Maberto insisted that it liked both.

They had told the story of their imprisonment.

They were near the shaft when the rope broke and the cage, full of coal, went crashing to the bottom, causing the cave-in.

They began to try to dig themselves out. For five hours they dug, reaching a height of ten feet. They heard the noise of the drill. They went to the place where the two-inch pipe was inserted. They took the pony with them. It was this pipe which supplied air, food, water and cheerful messages.

“Sure a Good Horse.”

Ordered to stop digging, they spent their time in feeding the pony, sleeping in turn, eating and holding conversations with their friends through the tube.

They joked and made bets with the men above as to how soon they would be rescued. They talked of the pony all the time. “They get him out tomorrow when the hole is big enough,” Maberto said.

“That pony sure a good horse,” Bertillo and Bernardi agreed and the rescue, believing the same, promised that the pony would be out of the shaft by noon Wednesday.

Vacation Dates for Police Announced

Vacation dates for members of the local police departments were announced Wednesday by Chief of Police.

Yan Benbow, as follows: Jones and Bennington, June 1 to 15; Flaherty and Goodpasture, June 15 to 29; Laffin and Hells, July 1 to 15; Seldomridge and Brown, July 15 to 29; Cunningham and Myers, August 1 to 15; Ehtel and Ellis, August 15 to 29; Al tad and Vaught, September 1 to 15; Peterman and Reed, September 15 to 29; Mills and Hankinson, October 1 to 15; Roesler, October 15 to 29. Chief Benbow and Captains Coons will have vacations assigned later.