

Oroville Man Nearly Drowns In Mine Shaft

When the lights on a Wyandotte dragline dredger suddenly went out as he was about to go on his midnight work shift, last night Charles Anderson of Oroville fell into a 12-foot prospect hole in which there were six feet of water.

Almost strangled, with his mouth full of muddy water, Anderson shouted for help, meanwhile trying to keep his head above the surface. His calls were heard by a fellow employe, Randolph Wallace, also of Oroville.

Wallace had also just arrived to start the midnight shift and had he been on the operating dredger, he would not have been able to hear Anderson's shouts.

Wallace threw a cable down the shaft to Anderson and then called to Anderson's son, nearby in an automobile, to throw the car headlights over the hole. Wallace found a ladder, tied a rope on it and threw it down the shaft to Anderson who climbed out safely.

He was taken to Oroville and after obtaining some dry clothes returned to his job.

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