

Coaldale Miner Rescued Unhurt

A coal miner was rescued unhurt yesterday after being trapped nine hours in a Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company shaft at Coaldale.

Thirty rescue workers labored through a mass of rock and coal to reach Steve Oblas, 26, of Mauch Chunk.

A fellow miner, Thomas Piech, leaped to safety and spread the alarm.

Oblas was trapped 300 feet underground by a fall of coal, rocks and timber.

He was smiling and able to walk but was admitted to Coaldale Hospital as a precautionary measure.

Oblas told company officials and rescue workers that he felt all right but was cold. Rescue workers under the leadership of Kermit Hoffman, mine superintendent, worked to free the contract miner after the alarm was spread at 9 a. m. that he was trapped in a chute in the Springdale section of the mine.

He was freed at 6:20 p. m., Tuesday.

Piech joined in the rescue operation. At 1:30 p. m., rescue men were able to speak to him through the loosened debris. Earlier they were certain of his safety after he returned tapping signals.

Oblas is married to the former Anna Mele, Mauch Chunk. They are the parents of a one-year-old daughter.