

Mine Explosion Kills 27 Men

WEST FRANKFORT, Ill., July 25 (AP)—Twenty-seven miners lost their lives in an explosion yesterday in one of the state's largest mines in the heart of the Southern Illinois coal fields.

Twenty-six of the approximately 200 miners at work in the diggings 600 feet underground were found dead about a mile and a half south of the bottom of the shaft at the main entrance to the old Ben Coal company's No. 8 mine. One of the

State Sues In Cafe Case

The state unemployment compensation commission has filed a lawsuit in circuit court against William E. Peck, former operator of the new "K" cafe. Purpose of the action was to recover \$450.42, which the commission contends it is owed since Peck failed to comply with provisions of the unemployment compensation law.

Under the law, employers with four or more persons in their employ in any one day during a period of a quarter of a year and with a quarterly payroll of \$500 or more must pay an amount equal to 2 1/2 per cent of the total payroll to the commission.

The commission alleges that Peck failed to make such a payment for a period including the fourth quarter of 1946 through the second quarter of 1947, and that during that period he was subject to the unemployment compensation law.

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Dr. Herman Wexler, Director

North Busses Running Low

Busses to Moore park, Pelican City and Wocus have been running almost empty, according to Louis Soukup, head of the Klamath Bus company. If, after a few more weeks, business doesn't improve the service will have to be discontinued, Soukup stated.

At present busses run to Moore park each Sunday, leaving 4th and Main on the hour and returning to town from the park on the half hour. Last Sunday, Soukup said, the company paid the driver \$13.80 while only taking in a little over \$8.

Two runs each week are made to the Pelican City and Wocus areas but as yet residents have not made sufficient use of the busses to warrant maintaining the service.

For buying, selling, trading, use The Herald and News Want Ads for quick results.

Work was hampered by carbon monoxide gas and the last three bodies found were buried beneath coal and debris.

Harold L. Walker, Illinois director of mines and minerals, said many of the bodies were badly burned, indicating, he said, a fire had broken out following the explosion. The cause of the blast had not been determined.

During the rescue operations there had been conflicting reports of the total number of men trapped. The rescue teams worked frantically to reach the men in the belief they had been trapped by rock slides and might be alive. However, early today Walker said all 26 men were dead. Earlier Coroner D. J. Clayton of Franklin said 28 had lost their lives.

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TOM BROWN, Owner

Miss Oregon Pageant Opens

SEASIDE, July 25 (AP)—The first Miss Oregon pageant—the contest in which an Oregon girl will be selected to represent the state at the Miss America contest in Atlantic City—will open here tonight.

Seventeen beauty contest winners were on hand, representing cities throughout the state.

They were: Gladys Mack, Ashland; Lorraine Filliger, Astoria; Alice Mae Bergeson, Baker; Dorothy Johnston, Cannon Beach; Helen Case, Grants Pass; Joy Jones, Klamath Falls; Dorothy Chidsey, La Grande; Beverly Mooney, Medford; Helen McFetridge, Newport; Harriette

Stewart, Oregon City; Jane Hoberg, Portland; Joann Amode, Roseburg; Joyce Evenson, Salem; Beverly Anne Sukdora, John Day; Betty Lou Pollack, The Dalles; Lena Warren, Umatilla, and Betty Newman, Waldport.

Pageant events tonight and Saturday night will be followed Sunday by a morning parade and final selection and coronation of Miss Oregon by Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell Jr., at 2 p. m.

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From where I sit ... by Joe Marsh

"Not Responsible For Wife's Debts"

A young man came rushing into the Clarion office the other day and wanted me to print an ad—"right quick"—saying he won't be responsible for his wife's debts from now on, as he's leaving her for good immediately.

I allowed as how the forms were all closed up, and it was too late to take his ad. He says: "All right, Monday then"—and we agreed on Monday.

Of course, the forms weren't closed. But I had kind of an inkling of what might happen. Then Sunday he phones me, and says, kind of sheepishly: "You can forget that ad. Me and the missus have everything all patched up. And we're having a friendly glass of beer, right now."

From where I sit, if you give folks time enough to think things over, those hasty quarrels that come so often from misunderstanding will give way to tolerance and common sense.

Joe Marsh

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