

Stubborn Mine Fire Still Holds 418 Blast Victims

KAMEN, Germany, Sept. 16 (AP)—After three and one-half years, a stubborn fire still guards the tomb of 418 German miners in this tiny Ruhr valley coal town.

The men were entombed in February 1946 by a mighty explosion that never has been explained. It was one of the worst mine disasters in history.

The entire shaft was cut off. Engineers flooded it in an effort to halt the raging fire that followed the blast. Then it was sealed off to protect other veins.

The fire never has actually stopped, officials of the Essen Steinkohle Werke said. Crews have

dug steadily from another direction ever since to reach the area and remove the bodies.

"It will take another year," said Director General H. J. Werning. Eventually the bodies will be extricated for burial in the village cemetery.

The disaster cost the company an estimated 10 million marks (\$3,600,000), without calculating the unexploded c—veins which were blocked off.

The effect never has worn off in a community of only 8000 people. Trades union officials said even now the young men of Kamen are reluctant to become miners and risk such an experience.

Werning said mine experts have examined every possibility to explain the blast that shook the Ruhr countryside. They finally blamed the weather.

"That is the only conclusion we could reach," he said.

On that February night, the Ruhr valley experienced a peculiar phenomenon. The air suddenly became heavy and hot. Then it was split by a deafening thunderstorm and a brilliant display of lightning.

The mine men think something in this peculiar combination must have touched off gas that otherwise would have been harmless. The Kamen mine had the reputation of being among the safest in the Ruhr.



THE LAST SWING goes into place as the Exchange club concludes its playground program which has been to assist the city with furthering its recreation areas. Here, Art Stiles, an Exchange club member active in the plan, mans the tools to install a swing at Eldorado park at Eldorado and Esplanade. Many pieces of playground equipment have been made and installed by the club.

Crop Prices Adjust Farm Wages In Sugar Cane Belt

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16 (AP)—A plan under which hired workers share with their employers the ups and downs of farm product prices is taking hold in one segment of American agriculture.

The plan will be used the second successive season this year in setting the wage pattern for workers harvesting the Louisiana sugarcane crop.

If the price of sugar averaged \$5.60 for 100 pounds, the day wage rate for cutters would be increased 39 cents above the base rate, to \$3.29.

Officials believe that this flexible wage principle could add to agricultural stability if used more extensively. But they do not have authority to set it up elsewhere.

Fish Boat Rescues Tugboat Crew

CORDOVA, Alaska, Sept. 16 (AP)—Six men from the grounded tugboat Afognak were rescued yesterday by the fishing boat Mary B, the coast guard reported.

The Mary B's skipper, Ira Rothwell, gave no details of the rescue, but said one of the seamen, Arthur Johnson, suffered a rib injury. The fishing vessel was awaiting high and English, Jim Conway, agricultural.

The Afognak ran aground early yesterday some 75 miles southeast of here after sending distress calls that she was shipping water near Kayak Island in the storm-tossed Gulf of Alaska.

Egypt, Arabia, and India are in the same latitude as Florida.

Adjustable Wages
Last year the department put up the idea of the adjustable wage scale. Reports indicate that it worked out satisfactorily. Anyway it will be used again this year.

Here is how the plan works: If the price of raw sugar is between \$5.60 and \$6 for 100 pounds, the worker gets the so-called "base" wage rate. That rate is \$3.90 a day, plus housing, medical attention, garden and similar perquisites, for cane cutters.

For each full 10 cents that the price of raw sugar is above \$6 or below \$5.60, wage rates will increase or decrease 5.5 cents a day.

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Named at a coronation ball attended by nine candidates from as many western universities, she will lead Berkeley's annual football festival parade tonight.

She also will reign over the opening football game Saturday between California and the University of Santa Clara.

TUNA PRICES DOWN
NEWPORT, Ore., Sept. 16 (AP)—Tuna prices are at new postwar lows here—\$325 to \$380 a ton—with little tuna being caught. They are even lower south of here—\$300 at Coos Bay and \$260-280 at Eureka, Calif.

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Ex-Convict's Bullet-Torn Body Found

VALLEY STREAM, N. Y., Sept. 16 (AP)—The bullet-riddled body of an ex-convict whose testimony helped send leaders of Murder, Inc., to the electric chair, was found late last night near Southern State parkway on Long Island.

The man, whose body was still warm, had been shot three times in the head and three times in the back.

Police identified the victim as Phil (Little Fave) Cohen, 43-year-old ex-member of the Murder, Inc., mob who turned state's evidence in 1940. It was Cohen's testimony that helped send Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, leader of the gang, and two of his underlings to the electric chair.

Howard Vengeance
Sergeant George Heddink of the state police said there was little question that Cohen's slaying was linked to gangland vengeance.

Buchalter, overlord of the criminal syndicate that operated out of Brooklyn, died in Sing Sing's electric chair for the 1936 murder of Joseph Rosen, a Brooklyn candy store operator.

Executed with him were two of his associates named as accomplices in the slaying, Emanuel (Mendy) Weiss and Louis Capone.

Cohen also had been indicted in the slaying. But after he took the stand to testify for the state, he was tried and sentenced to prison instead on a narcotics charge.



QUESTIONED — Billy Irvin (above), 37, was questioned about the hatchet slaying of Mrs. Josephine Kofahl, 40, found dead in bed at her home in Long Beach. Police quoted Irvin as saying he was a roomer at the house. Her husband is an oil driller now working in Arabia.

Watch the temperature when using cheese in a dish. High temperatures of too long cooking tends to make cheese stringy and rubbery.

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Camp Fire News

All of the Blue Birds in Klamath county will hold an outdoor party on Saturday afternoon in honor of new Blue Birds and girls who would like to become members. The party will be held at the Camp Fire house, located on Conser Ave., near the Loco power house at 2:30 on Saturday afternoon. All second grade, third grade, and fourth grade Blue Birds and their leaders as well as new girls are invited to attend.

This party is part of the fall membership drive being held by Camp Fire girls. New Blue Bird groups are being organized in the second grades of many grade schools of Klamath county, as well as new groups in the third and fourth grades and new Camp Fire groups in the upper grades for girls 10 years and older.

Each girl should bring her own wieners and huns for roasting, other refreshments will be furnished, include punch and ice cream.

Activities will include games, roasting wieners and marshmallows, singing etc.

The fun will begin at 2:30, Saturday afternoon, and the party will end at 5:30. Parents are asked to be responsible for the transportation of their children.

EXTENSION UNIT NEWS

Klamath county women elected to represent their respective home extension units are asked to meet for an all-day session Monday, September 19 from 10 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. at the chamber of commerce. Theme will be "Officers' Training Day."

Frances Clinton, assistant state leader of the home extension staff, will be present to instruct the officers on their duties as unit leaders.

The county committee met September 12 with Mary Glenn, newly named home extension agent, at the home of Mrs. Ray Garrison, committee chairman, to work out final details of the officers' training day meeting.

All chairmen, vice chairmen, secretary-treasurers, and members of the county committee are requested to attend the session which will begin promptly with registration at 10 a. m.

Man Reports Strange Sight In KF Sky

People are still seeing things in the sky. About 8:30 last night a call came into the Herald and News editorial room, asking if there had been any report of a flaming ball of fire seen soaring across the local heavens just a few minutes ago.

The local star-gazer refused to divulge his identity, perhaps not wanting to be known as an alarmist.

Nevertheless, the anonymous amateur astronomer was firmly convinced he had seen a fiery sphere in the far blue yonder as he was driving along Hope street.

Perhaps the luminous apparition was one of Vaughn Monroe's riders in the sky all aglow with Christmas spirit.

Cops On Red Cycles Unfair In California

BAKERSFIELD, Calif., Sept. 16 (AP)—Police—while not exactly eye to eye with Mrs. Gladys Stramler—nonetheless saw red today.

Mrs. Stramler, prominent clubwoman, was arrested recently on a speeding charge by Officer H. L. Benfield.

When the case came to trial yesterday her attorney asked dismissal on grounds Benfield's motorcycle was painted red. The state motor vehicle department, argued the lawyer, specifies black and white as the distinctive color for law enforcement motorcycles in California.

The judge gave the city attorney 48 hours to answer Mrs. Stramler's contention.

And Police Chief H. V. Grayson ordered all motorcycle officers to issue no more tickets until their steeds are painted black and white.

Oregon State Coed West Grid Queen

BERKELEY, Calif., Sept. 16 (AP)—Sharon Lee Langdon, 19, Oregon State college coed, was elected football queen last night in a University of California campus contest open to candidates from all Far West schools.

Named at a coronation ball attended by nine candidates from as many western universities, she will lead Berkeley's annual football festival parade tonight.

She also will reign over the opening football game Saturday between California and the University of Santa Clara.

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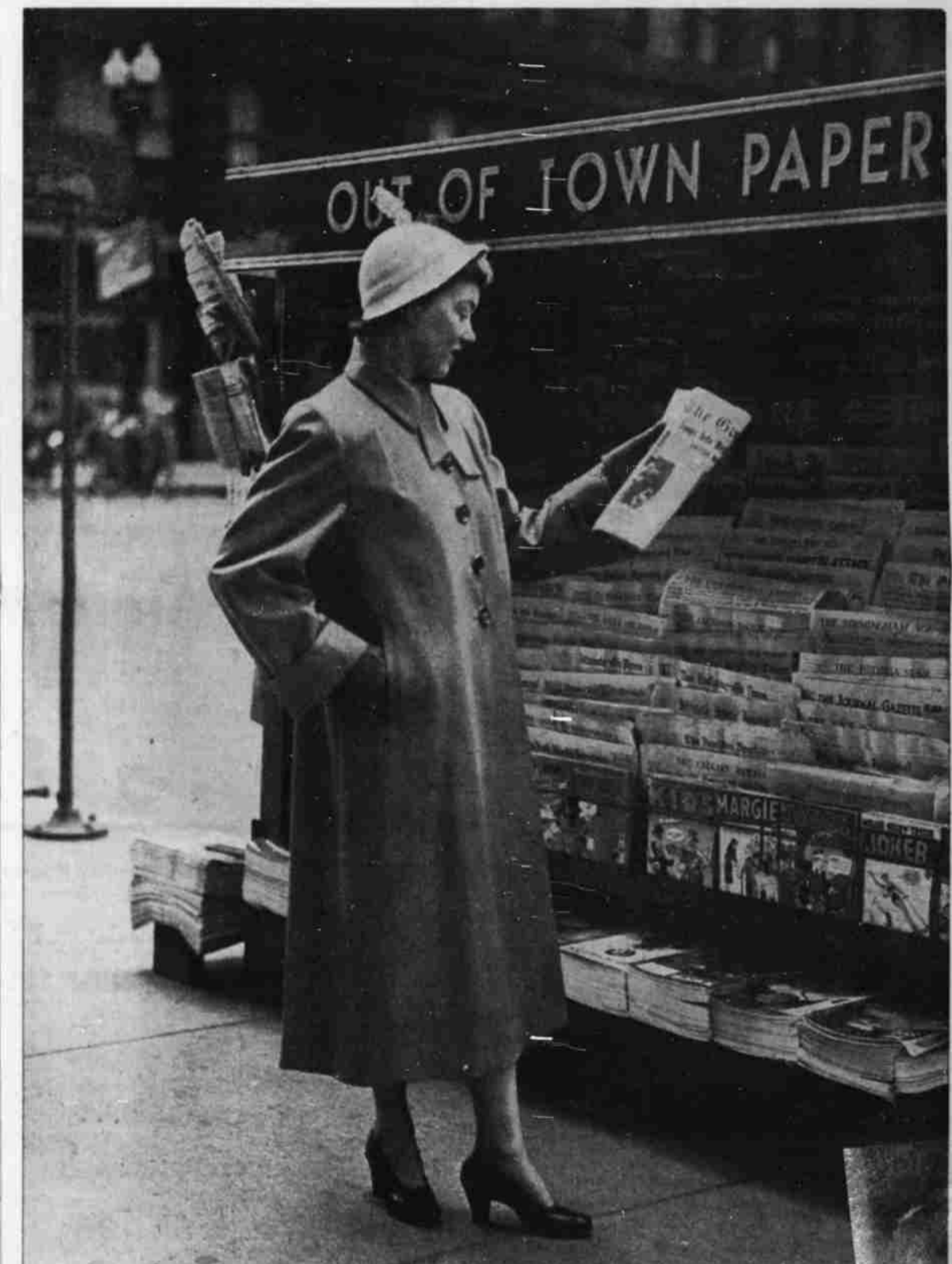
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