

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1951

MINE SAFETY AND CIVIL DEFENSE

The coal industry's trained safety teams are an "exceptionally valuable resource" in civil defense planning, in the opinion of Dr. William E. Warner, executive director for civil defense in Ohio. Dr. Warner made this observation in a talk urging the public to attend the National First Aid and Mine Rescue Contest, held this week at the Ohio State Fairgrounds, Columbus.

This contest, which has been termed the "Greatest Safety Show On Earth," involved more than 600 men, representing all the mining areas of the nation. The value of such contests to promote safety was recognized by the Bureau of Mines as long as 40 years ago. The idea is that competition can be a powerful factor in making workers safety conscious, and in keeping them alert to practices that can cause accidents. And the coal industry has long been preeminent in its safety work. The mine accident rate—both for fatalities and non-fatalities—has steadily gone down, and new record after new record has been established.

J. J. Forbes, chief of the Health and Safety Division of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, recently pointed out that more than 1,800,000 men have received Bureau first-aid training, and constitute a "nucleus civil defense force that is mighty good to have around in these perilous times." On numerous past occasions men who received their safety and first aid training in the mines have been called to aid in emergencies and have saved many lives. In the event that our civil defense forces must deal with an emergency resulting from war, the services of these men could be invaluable. The contest at Columbus thus was important to the entire country.

1951 National Mine Rescue Contest

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Penssy, Maryland Teams Win Top Awards In Mine Rescue Contests

COLUMBUS —185— Teams from Pennsylvania and Maryland hold titles in the first national first-aid and mine rescue contest conducted in the last 21 years.

Congressional medallions were awarded Thursday night in Columbus to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal & Iron Co., Maple Hill Colliery, Pottsville, Pa., winners of the first-aid contest and to the United Mine Workers of America, District 16, Kitzmiller, Md., tops in mine rescue.

The medallions were awarded by the U. S. Bureau of Mines under special authority from Congress and presented by Dr. James Boyd, bureau director, at a banquet climaxing the three-day competition.

There were 55 first-aid teams and

14 mine-rescue squads from 10 states in the meet. Ten tough problems in aid to the injured were solved by first-aid teams, while the rescue squads worked on problem in mock mine explosion.

Other winners were:

First aid—Republic Steel Corp., Indianola Mine, Indianola, Pa., second, and Consolidation Coal Co., Kentuch, Mine No. 214, Jenkins, Ky., third place.

Mine rescue—U. S. Steel Co., Coal Division, Robena Mine, Uniontown, Coal Co., Kentucky, Clover Splint Mine, Closplint, Ky., third place.

The only entry and winner of the combination first aid-mine rescue contest was the Hanna Coal Co., Dun Glen No. 11 Mine, Dun Glen, O.

1951 National Mine Rescue Contest

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Mine 58 Team Ranks 27th In National Event

U.M.W.A Team From Kitzmilller, Md., Is Winner Top Honors

Peabody Mine No. 58's first aid team placed 27th in the national first aid and mine rescue contest held October 2-4 at Columbus, O., according to word received this morning by Division Superintendent Lynn Trovillion, from Howard Johnson, Peabody safety engineer.

In a telephone conversation with Trovillion, Johnson stated that the local team had a percentage of 98.26. The team of Peabody Mine 43 of Harrisburg placed 41st, with a percentage of 97.78. Another Peabody mine, No. 70 at Ameagle, West Virginia, ranked 55th, its percentage being 96.56.

Fifty-six teams competed in the event, Mr. Johnson said, and each was required to work 11 problems. The winning team's percentage was 99.68, and the team ranking last had a percentage of 96.54, which indicates very keen competition.

Top winners were—First aid contest: first, Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Co., Maple Hill Colliery, Pottsville, Pa.; second, Republic Steel Corp., Indianola, Pa., mine; third, Consolidation Coal Co., of Kentucky, Mine No. 214, Jenkins, Ky.

Mine rescue contest: first, United Mine Workers of America, District 16, Kitzmilller, Md.; second, U. S. Steel Co., coal division, Robena mine, Uniontown, Pa.; third, Consolidation Coal Co. of Kentucky, Clover Splint mine, Closplint, Ky.

The combination first aid and mine rescue contest was won by Hanna Coal Co., Dun Glen No. 11 mine, Dun Glen, O., the only en-

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Region Team Wins Mine Rescue Honor

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Oct. 5 (U.P.)— Mine rescue teams from 12 states returned home today after competing in the two-day national first aid and mine rescue contests under sponsorship of the United States Bureau of Mines.

Winners were honored during a banquet here last night at which congressional medalions were presented by Dr. James Boyd, director of the United States Bureau of Mines.

A mine rescue team representing the United Mine Workers District 16, Kitzmiller, Md., took first place in the national mine rescue contest, while the Maple Hill Colliery team, of Pottsville, Pa., representing the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Company, captured the top spot in the first aid division.

The crews battled 80-degree heat as well as simulated mine disasters during the two-day contests. Other winners included:

First aid—Republic Steel Corporation, Indianola Mine, Indianola, Pa., second; Consolidation Coal Company, Mine No. 214, Jenkins, Ky., third; Rail and River Coal Company, Bellaire, Ohio, fourth; Hanna Coal Company, Willowgrove, No. 10 Mine, Neff, Ohio, fifth; Powhatan Mining Company, Powhatan Point, Ohio, tenth.

Mine rescue—United States Steel Company, coal division, Robena Mine, Uniontown, Pa., second; Consolidation Coal Company, Clover Splint Mine, Closplint, Ky., third.

Teams from Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Wyoming competed in the contests.