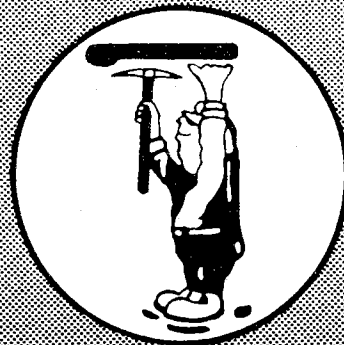


NOVEMBER 1985



# BULLETIN



**Make A  
Safety Drive  
In "85"**

THIS SAFETY BULLETIN CONTAINS SAFETY ARTICLES ON A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS, FATAL ACCIDENT ABSTRACTS, STUDIES, POSTERS AND OTHER SAFETY INFORMATION FOR PRESENTATION TO GROUPS OF MINE AND PLANT WORKERS.

AS GROUP SPOKESPERSON, LEADER OR SUPERVISOR, YOU PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE ACCIDENT PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR YOUR COMPANY. THE WAY YOU TALK, THINK AND ACT ABOUT SAFETY DETERMINES, TO A GREAT EXTENT, THE ATTITUDE YOUR COWORKERS WILL HAVE ABOUT SAFETY.

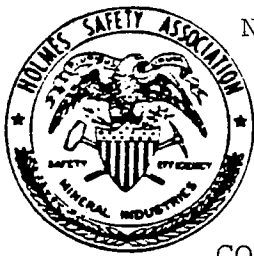
THIS MATERIAL, FUNDED BY THE MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, IS PROVIDED FREE AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION AT ON-THE-JOB SAFETY MEETINGS. IT MAY BE USED AS IS OR TAILORED TO FIT LOCAL CONDITIONS IN ANY MANNER THAT IS APPROPRIATE.

PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED GREEN MEETING REPORT FORM TO RECORD YOUR SAFETY MEETINGS AND RETURN TO THE HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION, POSTAGE-PAID.



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November 1985



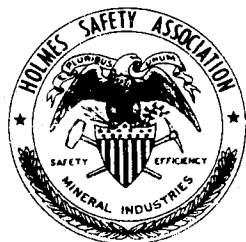
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Industrial Coal Corp.	6323	Grundy, VA
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Buttons Coal	6326	Vaughan, WV
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Vulcan Materials Co.	6336	Winston-Salem, NC
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BX Corp.	6352	Pikeville, KY
Reynolds Metal Co.	6353	Corpus Christi, TX
Hellier Fuel Co.	6354	Hellier, KY
Double Eagle Coal, Inc.	6355	Hellier, KY
H & G Coal Co., Inc.	6356	Weeksbury, KY
Phoenix Mining Corp.	6357	Robinson Creek, KY
Pa Pa Coal Mining Co.	6358	Allen, KY
Dallenbach Sand Co.	6359	Dayton, NJ
Standard Construction Co.	6360	Collierville, TN
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Donald Swiney Mining	6391	Ashcamp, KY
Camp Fork Fuel Co.	6392	Shelby Gap, KY
C. S. & S. Coal Co.	6393	Phyllis, KY
Tripple S Coal Co., Inc.	6394	Elkhorn City, KY
Mack Coal Corp. #3	6395	Elkhorn City, KY
K & S Coal Co., Inc.	6396	Elkhorn City, KY
Quarter Coal Co.	6397	Belcher, KY
Wachob Coal Corp.	6398	Mouthcard, KY
S and L Mining, Inc.	6399	Mavisdale, VA
Raven Smokeless Coal Corp.	6400	Vansant, VA



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IN MEMORIAM

It was with deep regret that we learned of the untimely death of one of our most faithful members who has served with dedication as secretary of the Southeast Ohio Council; Dalton E. McNece, Jr., Federal Coal Mine Inspector, MSHA, Wellston, Ohio, August 28, 1985.

His endeavors were exerted to the utmost for the health, safety and welfare of all associated with the mining, mineral extractive and allied industries and his unselfish devotion and untiring efforts in promoting the activities and safety education programs of the Association will be greatly missed.

His deeds and example shall be a lasting incentive and inspiration to those who continue in his memory.

Members-at-Large

Maurice Fowler Greensboro, PA  
 W. Dennis Frailey Benton, IL  
 Charles E. Jones Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 C. William Parisi Pittsburgh, PA



H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC

# DON'T BE "HUNTED"



Each year many people in this country accidentally kill themselves or others with firearms.

During October, November, and December the monthly average number of gun deaths increases by 60 percent because of hunting accidents. These accidents can be classified as either "intentional discharge" or "accidental discharge."

Accidents resulting from intentional discharge are usually traceable to one or more of the following causes: (1) the victim moves into the line of fire without warning; (2) the victim is shot by excited hunters firing too quickly at game; (3) the victim is mistaken for game; (4) the victim is not seen by the person who fires the gun.

Casualties resulting from accidental discharge are generally caused by stumbling or falling; catching the gun trigger in brush; discharging the gun while clubbing game; bumping or jolting the gun during removal from vehicle or boat; discharging the gun while crossing a fence, discharging during loading and unloading. Most inexcusable of all causes is horseplay.

Guns are dangerous, but so are automobiles, sharp tools and many other things when used improperly. As is true of everything else, there is a right way and a wrong way to handle firearms. Those who know and practice the right way don't have accidents with guns.

The Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute lists the following safety rules. They are as important to hunters as licenses. Follow them.

1. Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun.
2. Guns carried into camp or home must always be unloaded.
3. Always be sure that the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.



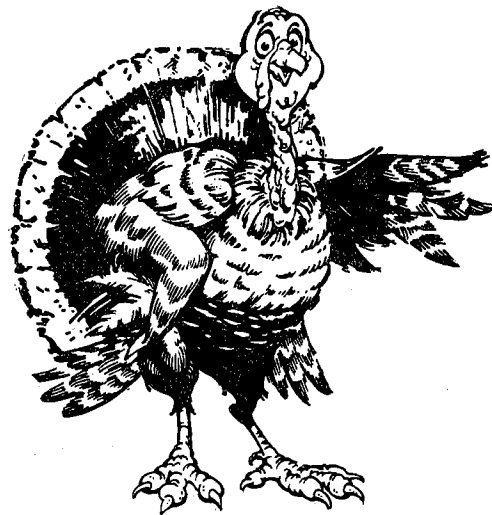
-MORE-







4. Always carry your gun so that you control the direction of the muzzle.
5. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.
6. Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.
7. Unattended guns should be unloaded and stored safely.
8. Never climb a tree or fence with a loaded gun.
9. Never shoot at a flat, hard surface or the surface of water.
10. Do not mix gunpowder and alcohol.



# ABSTRACT FROM FATAL ACCIDENT

\*This fatality should be discussed at your regular on-the-job safety meeting.



## FATAL EXPLOSIVE ACCIDENT

GENERAL INFORMATION: The mine, an open pit limestone quarry, was being prepared for re-opening and the initial plans were for a sub-contractor to haul out fill material to a construction site. Oversize rock was to be crushed and screened by the quarry operator.

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT: The round to be loaded consisted of 33 holes, 22 feet deep and 3 inches in diameter. The holes were drilled on a 9 by 6 foot multiple row pattern and had been drilled approximately one year prior to the accident. The limestone face was interspersed with numerous horizontal clay seams.

The victim arrived at the property with his assistant. The quarry owner joined them and they went about the task of clearing holes. The victim was tamping the 13th hole when the detonation occurred.

CAUSE OF ACCIDENT: The cause of the accident was tamping on the primer causing a detonation. Contributing causes include charging old deteriorating holes where loading required excessive tamping and improper priming procedures.

RECOMMENDATIONS: The following recommendations may prevent a similar accident in the future:

1. Holes should be shot as soon as possible after drilling.
2. Old deteriorating holes should be redrilled or abandoned.
3. Only wooden or nonsparking implements shall be used to punch holes in an explosive cartridge.
4. Explosives should not be tamped with metallic devices.
5. Tamping shall not be done directly on a primer.
6. Boreholes shall be cleared of obstruction before charging.

# ABSTRACT FROM FATAL ACCIDENT

\*This fatality should be discussed at your regular on-the-job safety meeting.



## FATAL ROOF FALL ACCIDENT

GENERAL INFORMATION: A roof fall accident occurred at the intersection in the last open crosscut resulting in the death of a roof bolting machine operator.

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT: The foreman entered the mine, examined the working places and assigned duties and work locations to the miners. Shortly thereafter, normal coal production activities began and the continuous miner was trammed into the face of No. 4 room and a normal cut was mined from the face of the room, after which the miner was backed out and into the right crosscut off No. 4 room. The left side of the crosscut was mined and mining the right side had begun.

About five or six shuttle cars of coal had been mined in the right side when the roof bolter operator started yelling for everybody to get out of the area. The rock fell catching and crushing the roof bolter operator against the mine floor.

CONCLUSION: The accident occurred because the roof was not adequately supported. The following factors contributed to the occurrence of the accident:

1. Hill seams and mud seams were present in the roof at numerous locations throughout the mine and added support was not installed. Entries and crosscuts were developed excessively wide at various locations, a violation of Section 75.200.
2. Coal on the mine roof prevented management from accurately evaluating mine roof conditions.
3. Mine management provided additional roof support to only those hill seams and mud seams that ran parallel to the mine entries and crosscuts and did not consider hill seams or mountain breaks that ran perpendicular to entries and crosscuts to pose any hazard potential.
4. Mining near the outcrop and a surface mine highwall which could have disturbed the roof.



## H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC



### PLASTIC CONTAINERS UNSAFE FOR UNDERGROUND MINE USE

Plastic storage containers, even those designated "safety containers," can pose a serious hazard during fires and should not be used to store grease and other lubricants in underground coal mines, according to the Interior Department's Bureau of Mines.

The Bureau based its conclusions on tests of five-gallon metal containers typically used in underground mines and of plastic containers that have been proposed for such use. In the tests, the plastic containers all failed to withstand minor fires.

Current safety regulations require that lubricant oils and greases kept in underground coal mines shall be in closed metal containers or other "no less effective containers." Some lubricants are now being shipped by manufacturers in plastic pails, and mine operators have asked the Labor Department's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) for approval to use the plastic units underground.

At MSHA's request, the Bureau developed a standard tray fire test to determine the safety of the plastic cans, as well as the currently used metal containers. In the test, the containers held one gallon of non-fire-resistant hydraulic oil and were placed in a fire of limited intensity and duration. A container was judged adequate if it held its contents during a series of seven fires.

Approximately 90 percent of the metal containers tested met those criteria. (The Bureau found, however, that closed metal containers should be weakened at the top to prevent explosive loss of fluid in a fire). The plastic containers, on the other hand, all failed. Similar results were obtained in preliminary tests when the plastic containers held grease.

Some metal containers were also tested when holding kerosene. Approximately one-third of the metal containers spilled or lost their contents in those tests, primarily by rupturing explosively. As a result, the Bureau recommends that combustible fluids with volatility similar to that of kerosene be stored in metal safety containers or metal containers with release vents.

The Bureau's test procedures and results are described in Report of Investigations 8946, "Fire Tests of Five-Gallon Containers Used for Storage in Underground Coal Mines." Copies are available free of charge from the Bureau's publications distribution office, 4800 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, phone 412/621-4500, ext. 342. Orders should specify the report title and number.



## H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC



### FOLLOW SAFE PRACTICES WHEN USING FLAMMABLES

Following are basic safety practices that each employee should observe when using flammables.

1. Use only approved safety containers and see that they are in good condition and do not leak. OSHA requires that they be painted red.
2. Keep containers closed when not in use.
3. Never use a container for any liquid other than that for which it is intended and so marked. Clearly label contents. Do not use glass bottles.
4. Keep only that quantity of solvent needed during that shift at the job site.
5. At the end of the shift, return any unused solvent to the designated storage area.
6. Clean up spills of all liquids immediately.
7. Dispose of clean-up rags into approved self-closing waste containers.
8. Never smoke, use open flames, or strike sparks in areas where flammables are kept or used.
9. Check the bonding of all ground connections and between containers before transferring solvents from drums to smaller containers.
10. Never pour flammable liquids into sewers or drains although dirty. They still are flammable and may cause explosion in sewers.
11. If spills of solvents accidentally contaminate clothing, change clothes promptly and flush affected skin area with plenty of water immediately.
12. Gloves impervious to the solvent should always be worn.



## H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC



### EMPTY DRUMS ARE HAZARDS, CHECK THEM

Have your welders been using empty 55-gallon oil drums as work supports in welding and cutting operations?

Several explosions and fires have resulted from such practices. In one case, the welder placed a piece of work on a handy drum and inadvertently burned into it, causing an explosion.

In another incident, a welder used a drum to support a scaffold. The bung was open, and vapors from the drum were ignited by the welding arc, causing an explosion and fire.

The only safe assumption regarding flammable liquid drums is that they are not empty until they have been cleaned and purged of all vapors.

An emptied drum with an open bung may be more hazardous than a tight drum full of volatile products.

Three lessons are to be learned from these incidents:

1. Empty drums should be removed from any area where cutting and welding is to be done.
2. Drums should not be used as supports for scaffolding.
3. Supervisors issuing hot work permits should inspect the location to be sure no flammable materials can be reached by welding sparks, and no volatile liquids or vapors can be ignited by the operation.

# **MATERIALS HANDLING AND STORAGE**



## H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC



**ANALYSIS OF FATAL DREDGE INJURIES**  
**METAL/NONMETAL MINING**  
**1979-1983**

The intent of this analysis is to summarize the primary hazards related to fatal dredge mining accidents and to provide some recommendations for reducing these hazards. During this 5-year period there were 20 fatalities that were reported to HSAC. Thirteen of these fatalities resulted from drowning. Data for this study were obtained from accident reports and information on file within the Health and Safety Analysis Center, Denver, Colorado.

This analysis includes all reported fatalities in the metal and nonmetal industry which involved dredge operations from 1979 through 1983. Dredge operations reviewed included sand and gravel, lime, limestone, crushed stone, gold, salt, titanium, and zircon.

Through 1982 the fatality rates for dredge operations has been slightly higher than metal-nonmetal. However, in 1983 the rate increased substantially over the projected trend. The majority of this increase involved drowning accidents in the sand and gravel industry. Table 1 summarizes where the fatalities are occurring.

TABLE 1- Fatal Dredge Accidents  
1978-1983

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>1982<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>Total</u>
Falling into water	3	3	3	0	4	13
Dredge machinery maintenance	0	1	0	0	2	3
Operating mobile equipment	2	0	0	1	1	<u>4</u>
				Total		20

<sup>1</sup>From December 16, 1981 to July 18, 1982, operations engaged in the surface mining or milling of stone, clay, colloidal phosphate, and sand or gravel were not required to submit accident or injury data to MSHA.

-MORE-

Evaluation of these fatalities indicates that over 65 percent (13 of 20) involved falling into the water from the barge, dredge, work boat or raft, or walkway. In twelve instances the employees drowned and one was crushed between the barge and dredge. Of the twelve drowning deaths, eight victims were not wearing a PFD (Personal Floatation Device). Other factors contributing to these fatalities included the lack of adequate handholds and safety rails around work areas and walkways, unsafe access such as pipe lines, unsafe or overloaded work boats, improper boat handling and PFD's which do not keep the victims head above water if unconscious. In all but two of the thirteen drowning fatalities, there were no witnesses to the event. However, the conditions described in the accident investigation reports implied that the employees may have been stunned or knocked unconscious when they fell into the water. These conditions would indicate these persons were working alone where a hazardous condition, i.e., possibility of drowning existed.

Of the remaining fatalities, three involved the repair of on-board dredge equipment and four involved the operation of equipment on shore. Two hazards noted which are generally common to dredging operations involved running equipment into the water and working with electricity around water.

This analysis indicates that the predominant hazard associated with dredge accidents involves drownings. There are federal standards concerning the use of personal flotation devices (PFD) in the surface metal and nonmetal industry. These standards are found in Title 30 CFR, Parts 55.15-20 and 56.15-20 as follows:

Mandatory. Life jackets or belts shall be worn where there is a danger from falling into water.

However, it is apparent from the accident data that these requirements are complied with by some dredge operators. It would seem that many workers regard the available PFD's as uncomfortable, inconvenient and even hazardous, to use regularly. A new design (or designs), which provides a comfortable PFD, which does not interfere with work or catch on protruding machinery and which would keep the employee's head above water is needed. Since other industries, such as offshore drilling and river barges experience the same problems, a program should be organized in cooperation with the U.S. Coast Guard, OSHA, and possibly with the U.S. Navy to develop an improved PFD. In addition to the operational considerations mentioned above, the improved PFD design should incorporate the following:

It should have the capability to turn unconscious persons in the water to a vertical and slightly backward position, and to maintain them in that position.

-MORE-



The covering material should be stain resistant, easy to clean, and resistant to tearing.

For night shift operations it should have provisions for a small emergency light similar to that required for PFDs on commercial vessels by 46 CFR 25.25-13 and an emergency sound signal.

The U.S. Bureau of Mines funded a contract on dredge hazards which proposed the development of a training program for dredge operators and employees. The following recommended training program incorporates many of the recommendations in the referenced report.

A. Water Safety and Nautical Requirements

1. Use and care of PFD. How, where and when
2. Training in water survival
3. Small boat handling
4. Use of floating walkways

B. Communications

1. Signals for change in operations or task requirement
2. Normal communications with shore, plant, or office
3. Emergency communications, dredge to shore, shore and dredge to water
4. "Buddy system" and procedures to account for worker location and status

C. Emergency Procedures and Equipment

1. Rescue access to dredge (boat availability and pipeline)
2. Fire fighting
3. Lifesaving techniques

D. Regulatory Requirements, Organized Standards and Recommendations On Ways to Comply

1. 30 CFR provisions relating to dredging
2. ANSI A10.15
3. Corps of Engineers General Safety Requirements
4. USCG regulations governing inland waterways

There is presently a 16-minute motion picture entitled "Safety Practices in Dredging Operations" available from the National Mine Health and Safety Academy, Beckley, West Virginia. The movie stresses personal protection, dredge housekeeping, lighting, etc.

-MORE-

The previously cited MSHA regulations covering the use of PFD's refers to "belts". It should be noted that Coast Guard and state water safety regulations discourage and severely limit the use of belts as a PFD.

There are several different PFD's approved by the Coast Guard and the uses of these devices are specified. In the interest of uniformity and to improve safety it is suggested that the provisions for the use of PFD's in the mining industry be consistent with other regulatory agencies. In addition, location, number and type of PFD should be consistent with these agencies.

The incorporation of other safety regulations from these agencies relating to the safe operation of work boats should also be considered. These regulations refer to safe use and storage of engine fuel, specifications regarding location and use of fire extinguishers, proper identification lighting and emergency equipment.

\* \* \* \* \*

# HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

## CALENDAR YEAR REPORT

<u>January-December</u>	<u>Safety Meetings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Number of Chapters</u>
1977	3,430	46,397	1046
1978	65,571	735,728	1344
1979	85,552	1,033,335	1397
1980	98,991	1,225,596	1504
1981	98,773	1,305,501	1690
1982	105,123	1,305,265	2279
1983	107,328	1,224,243	2913
1984	120,787	1,455,776	4021

# HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

## BELT CONVEYOR HAZARDS

Shoveling and cleaning around moving belts is the most hazardous activity associated with conveyor systems. Attempting to clean moving rollers, idlers, and tail pulleys and attempting to remove material wedged in the head and tail pulleys is a dangerous practice. Reducing the amount of spillage from the belts will reduce the amount of cleaning and shoveling. Belts should not be loaded with material at a rate that will cause spillage over the sides. Properly designed chutes and skirtboards should be used to form, settle and center the load. Spillage can also occur if belts are not properly trained (aligned) or if repair splices are not properly cut and fitted. When splices are made on a belt care should be taken to ensure that the edges are cut so that the mating angles fit exactly (or as nearly as possible). This will reduce unequal tension across the face of the belt and reduce spillage.

While the mining safety laws require guarding to prevent reaching pulleys, shafts, etc. at arm's length, this guarding does not preclude reaching in with a shovel or bar. This is especially true when materials are on the upper side of the return belt and may be taken up between the pulley and the belt. Reaching in to clear the belt with a shovel can lead to getting pulled into the pulley. Adequate belt cleaners should be provided and guards extended to prevent reaching with a tool to clear the tail pulley.

Whenever cleaning along the line is necessary, miners should be instructed to shovel in the direction of belt travel. This will reduce the chances of having the shovel forced back and causing an injury, particularly if a splice is struck.

Except while making adjustments, it is a requirement that conveyors be locked out while doing maintenance or repairs on the belt. Crossovers or crossunders should be provided, where miners normally cross a belt. On long sections of belt, frequent crossing points should be provided and mine supervision should require the use of these crossings under all conditions.

The anchoring materials (chains, bolts, cables, etc.) used to hold tail and head pulleys in place must be adequately sized for the job. Hardened bolts and chains designed to withstand the tension forces applied to them when anchoring pulleys will reduce accidents resulting from tail or head pulleys tearing loose.

Caution should be used at all times when riding conveyors used as mantrips. The head should not be raised above the minimum required head space (Part 75-Sec. 1403-5) and arms and legs must be kept within the width of the belt. These precautions will reduce the chances of striking the conveyor structure and low structures such as roof supports and the roof itself.

# HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN IN THE FRESH AIR AND SUNSHINE!

Since 1978, 71 percent of all metal/nonmetal mine fatalities have occurred on the surface, not underground.

1985 is no exception. Through September 12, 1985, 73 percent of metal/nonmetal mine fatalities have occurred on the surface.

### Accidents

1978	-	96	Surface	-	40	Underground	=	136	-	70%
1979	-	91	Surface	-	32	Underground	=	123	-	73%
1980	-	79	Surface	-	24	Underground	=	103	-	76%
1981	-	54	Surface	-	31	Underground	=	84	-	64%
*1982	-	42	Surface	-	26	Underground	=	68	-	61%
1983	-	48	Surface	-	14	Underground	=	62	-	77%
1984	-	61	Surface	-	19	Underground	=	80	-	76%

1985 through September 12 = 30 Surface - 11 Underground- 41 Total (73%)

\*Includes exempted operations.

Contributed by:  
Wayne Wasson  
Mine Safety and Health Inspector  
National Mine Health and Safety Academy  
Beckley, West Virginia

# KEEP YOUR GUARD UP!

# HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

## COUNCIL NEWS

The Aracoma District Council, Holden, West Virginia, participated in the Logan County Arts and Crafts Fair by setting up an informational booth to promote mine safety and familiarize the public with the goals of the Holmes Safety Association.

Volunteers from both industry and MSHA manned the booth and distributed approximately 3,000 handouts.

The HSA National Council commends the efforts of Lonnie Gore, Marrowbone Development Company, Naugatuck, West Virginia, and the following MSHA personnel whose efforts made the display a success: Jefferson Adkins, Carol Browning, William Blevins, Walter L. Miller, Danny Woods, Douglas Smith, Timothy Justice, John Hichman and Oscar Nally, Jr.

\* \* \* \* \*

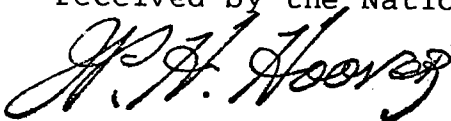
### District Council Injuries and Worktime January Through June 1985

Congratulations are in order to 12 of the 17 underground district council mines and 14 of the surface council mines for being fatality-free in the first half of 1985.

From January - June 1985, underground council mines total of 7 fatal and 1,259 nonfatal lost-work day injuries resulted in respective incidence rates of 0.04 and 6.96 per 200,000 work-hours of exposure. Underground aggregate work time reported was 36.18 million hours.

During the same period, surface council mines reported 2 fatal and 143 lost-work day injuries at respective incidence rates of 0.03 and 2.37 per 200,000 work-hours of exposure. Surface mines reported 12.06 million work hours.

For January - June 1985, the combined totals of 9 fatalities and 1,402 nonfatal injuries in surface and underground council mines resulted in respective incidence rates of 0.04 and 5.81 per 200,000 work hours of exposure. The overall rate of all fatal and lost work day injuries was 5.85 with 48.26 million work hours, based on reports received by the National Council Secretary.



William H. Hoover  
National Secretary

THE STANDINGS FOR THE NATIONAL DISTRICT COUNCIL COMPETITION  
FOR THE FIRST TWO QUARTERS OF 1985 ARE:

GROUP I - UNDERGROUND COAL - 3,000,000 OR MORE WORK HOURS

**WILLIAM "SCOTTY" GROVES COUNCIL**, Uniontown, Pennsylvania, with 3,258,302 hours of exposure, 88 lost-time accidents and two fatalities for an incidence rate of 5.52.

GROUP II UNDERGROUND COAL - 1,500,000 OR MORE WORK HOURS

**NORTH CENTRAL COUNCIL**, Fairmont, West Virginia, with 2,362,725 hours of exposure, 36 lost-time accidents and zero fatalities for an incidence rate of 3.05.

GROUP III UNDERGROUND COAL - 1,499,999 OR LESS WORK HOURS

**WINDBER COUNCIL**, Windber, Pennsylvania, with 177,925 hours of exposure, three lost-time accidents and zero fatalities for an incidence rate of 3.37.

GROUP I SURFACE COAL - 2,000,000 OR MORE WORK HOURS

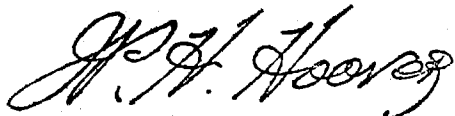
**INDIANA JOINT INDUSTRY SAFETY COMMITTEE COUNCIL-SOUTH**, Linton, Indiana, with 2,328,734 hours of exposure, 12 lost-time accidents and zero fatalities for an incidence rate of 1.03.

GROUP II SURFACE COAL - 1,000,000 OR MORE WORK HOURS

**INDIANA JOINT INDUSTRY SAFETY COMMITTEE COUNCIL-NORTH**, Linton, Indiana, with 1,287,741 hours of exposure, seven lost-time accidents and zero fatalities for an incidence rate of 1.08.

GROUP III SURFACE COAL - 999,999 OR LESS WORK HOURS

**MON VALLEY COUNCIL**, Morgantown, West Virginia, with 240,298 hours of exposure with zero lost-time accidents and zero fatalities for an incidence rate of 0.00.



William H. Hoover, Secretary  
National Council, HSA

NATIONAL COUNCIL HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

SAFETY COMPETITION

APRIL THROUGH JUNE 1985

YEAR-TO-DATE

SURFACE	WORK HRS.	LTA	FTLS	INC. RATE	STAND	WORK HRS.	LTA	FTLS	INC. RATE	STAND
GROUP I 2,000,000 +										
INDIANA JOINT (SOUTH)	1,174,404	6	0	1.02	1	2,328,734	12	0	1.03	1
GROUP II 1,000,000 +										
INDIANA JOINT (NORTH)	635,794	3	0	0.94	1	1,287,741	7	0	1.08	1
NEW RIVER VALLEY	426,774	4	0	1.87	3	1,002,767	8	0	1.60	2
GROVE CITY/CLARION COUNTY	521,414	4	0	1.53	2	1,044,372	11	0	2.11	3
GAULEY	1,033,556	14	0	2.71	4	1,467,691	21	0	2.86	4
ARACOMA	1,121,940	27	0	4.81	5	1,933,888	42	0	4.34	5
GROUP III 999,999 -										
MON VALLEY	191,126	0	0	0.00	1	240,298	0	0	0.00	1
KISKI TRI-COUNTY	22,321	0	0	0.00	2	30,174	0	0	0.00	2
WESTERN MARYLAND	223,074	1	0	0.90	3	437,026	1	0	0.46	3
POIOMAC VALLEY	168,524	1	0	1.19	5	256,931	2	0	1.56	4
JOHN O. MILLER	101,740	1	0	1.97	7	200,674	1	1	1.99	5
CLEARFIELD	338,196	3	0	1.77	6	712,379	8	1	2.53	6
INDIANA	187,099	1	0	1.07	4	372,654	6	0	3.22	7
CENTRAL ILLINOIS OPEN-PIT	193,882	3	0	3.09	8	360,255	7	0	3.89	8
GUYANDOTTE	66,530	3	0	9.02	10	133,060	3	0	4.51	9
SOUTHEAST OHIO	129,652	4	0	6.17	9	252,264	14	0	11.10	10
TOTALS	6,536,026	75	0	2.29		12,060,908	143	2	2.40	

November 1985

**NATIONAL COUNCIL HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION**

**SAFETY COMPETITION**

November 1985

YEAR-TO-DATE

APRIL THROUGH JUNE 1985

UNDERGROUND	WORK HRS.	LTA	FTLS	INC. RATE	STAND	WORK HRS.	LTA	FTLS	INC. RATE	STAND
GROUP I 3,000,000 +										
SCOTTY GROVES	1,840,311	59	1	6.52	1	3,258,302	88	2	5.52	1
JOHN E. JONES	2,948,561	177	0	12.01	3	6,103,440	295	1	9.70	2
INDIANA	1,784,970	92	0	10.31	2	3,611,983	185	0	10.24	3
GROUP II 1,500,000 +										
NORTH CENTRAL	1,126,732	12	0	2.13	1	2,362,725	36	0	3.05	1
GUYANDOTTE	1,371,621	45	0	6.56	6	2,743,241	45	0	3.28	2
GAULEY	1,607,097	36	0	4.48	2	2,393,223	55	0	4.60	3
KINGFISH KESSLER	1,303,216	36	0	5.52	3	2,713,272	73	0	5.38	4
ARACOMA	1,390,229	41	0	5.90	4	2,643,244	71	2	5.52	5
POTOMAC VALLEY	1,055,171	34	0	6.44	5	1,570,870	48	0	6.11	6
KASKASKIA VALLEY	789,478	31	0	7.85	7	1,843,422	56	1	6.18	7
SOUTHEAST OHIO	1,084,354	44	0	8.12	8	2,290,951	83	0	7.25	8
NEW RIVER VALLEY	1,442,393	79	0	10.95	9	2,679,451	113	1	8.51	9
GROUP III 1,499,999 -										
WINDBER	90,614	1	0	2.21	2	177,925	3	0	3.37	1
MON VALLEY	41,968	0	0	0.00	1	103,030	3	0	5.82	2
CLEARFIELD	21,540	1	0	9.29	3	60,847	2	0	6.57	3
JOHN O. MILLER	617,334	49	0	15.87	4	1,358,905	91	0	13.39	4
KISKI TRI-COUNTY	112,342	14	0	24.92	5	266,250	22	0	16.53	5
TOTALS	18,627,931	751	1	8.07		36,181,081	1,269	7	7.05	
COMBINED UNDERGROUND AND SURFACE TOTALS	25,163,957	826	1	6.57		48,241,989	1,412	9	5.89	





## H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC

**MINING INDUSTRY FORMS COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE**

Convinced that alcohol and drug abuse are significant problems at many of the nation's mines, a recently formed national committee has begun efforts to build in the mining community awareness of safety and health hazards inherent in substance abuse by mine employees.

MSHA had previously published in its Mine Safety and Health magazine two articles depicting numerous situations in which abuse of mood-changing substances has led to accidents which have impaired the health of individual miners and endangered the lives of miners at their workplace.

In subsequent meetings, the committee will help the mining community to develop resources to recognize internal problems related to drug or alcohol abuse and to help troubled employees -- including anyone from the executive board room to the employee tool room -- to resume productive working lives.

Estimates of the dollar cost of substance abuse to American industry have varied widely, but estimates have ranged as high as \$50 billion yearly regarding only the cost of alcohol abuse alone and to a lesser figure for drug abuse. These costs include, among others, expenses related to employee lost-time, medical expenses and insurance costs, loss of equipment in accidents, productivity, etc. The toll in human suffering, of course, cannot be calculated.

Employees with alcohol and drug problems will be encouraged to seek counsel and treatment to restore them to productive work. Mining industry substance abuse committee members said the committee will meet periodically to assess the progress of anti-drug efforts in the industry and to work on resources and programs that will aid large, moderate-sized and small companies in providing help to employees whose alcohol or drug problems are affecting their work.

Reprints of the two MSHA magazine articles about alcohol and drug abuse in the mining industry are available free of charge through the Business Office, National Mine Health and Safety Academy, P. O. Box 1166, Beckley, West Virginia 25802.



## H.S.A. SAFETY TOPIC



### TRAFFIC'S BATTLE OF THE YEAR SOCIETY VS. HOLIDAY ALCOHOLIC

THREE KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT ... excessive speed ... sharp curve driver had been drinking. Similar terse words from traffic accident summaries sketch the tragic results of one of the most urgent problems of modern society ... drinking and driving.

If history repeats itself, the approaching year-end holidays are again destined to be tragic for many on American streets and highways. The combination of alcohol, weather conditions, long hours of darkness and the universal spirit of holiday celebration pile up serious odds against safe travel.

Another factor that makes holiday driving hazardous is the lack of public understanding or at least acceptance of the lethal combination of drinking and driving. Too many people think alcohol is a problem only for those obviously intoxicated. Unfortunately, this is not the case. The vast majority of the holiday celebrants--the social drinkers, those who have "only a few drinks" and then try to drive home--hamper their driving ability at a time when other driving conditions are bad.

Safe driving in today's traffic demands mental alertness and physical fitness. Alcohol affects the body in much the same manner as chloroform, ether or other anesthetics. It is not a stimulant, but a narcotic that is medically classified as a depressant. Use of alcohol affects coordination, slows reflexes and impairs a driver's judgment. Those who feel they are better drivers after "a few drinks" are merely victims of the influence of intoxicants.

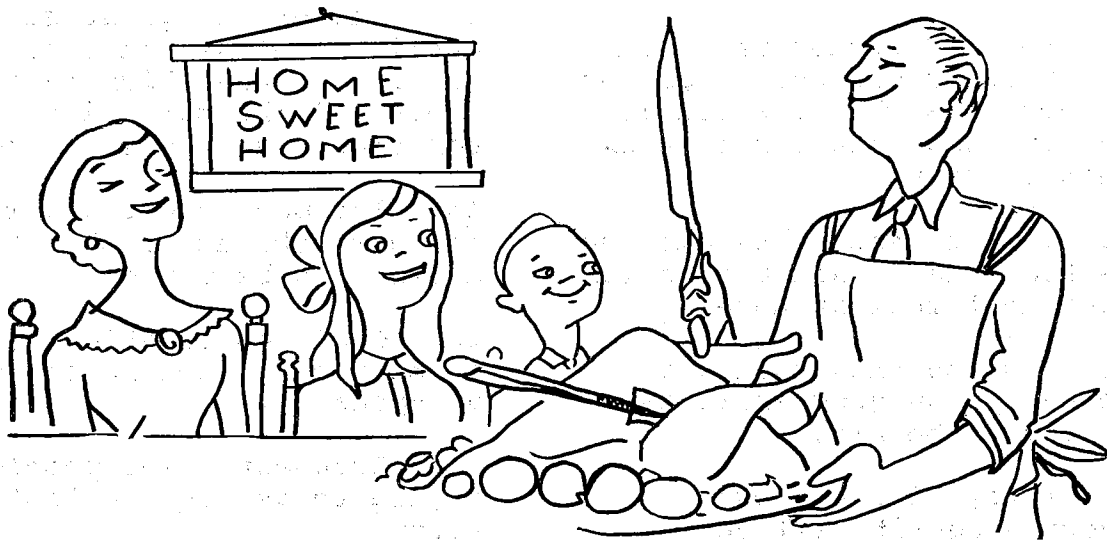
At the same time it slows coordination and physical reactions, alcohol is taking the wraps off inhibitions and makes us feel we can accomplish things we would never try in a sober moment. This means a driver who has only one or two drinks may not be able to take the necessary evasive action quickly enough to prevent an accident that could ordinarily be avoided easily. It is not necessary for a driver to be "under the influence" in the legal sense, to be a dangerous driver. Drinking reduces the ability of any driver. Even two cocktails may reduce visual acuity as much as wearing dark glasses at night.

-MORE-

Let's all of us dedicate ourselves to the campaign to eliminate drinking and driving.

As the National Safety Council warns:

**"IF YOU DRIVE, DON'T DRINK"**  
**"IF YOU DRINK, DON'T DRIVE"**



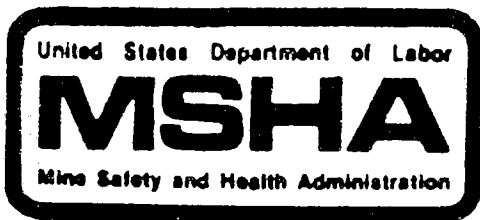
THE HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION WISHES YOU A HAPPY THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

# THE LAST WORD

1. You may think that Mondays are awful, but just remember that they comprise one-seventh of your life.
2. Money won't buy everything--it will buy a bed but not sleep.
3. It's true that we need more optimism in this old world, but that does not mean that we should blind ourselves to reality.
4. You had better watch out for that friend who lends you an umbrella when the sun is shining and asks for it back when it rains.
5. If you want to become the perfect guest then try to make your host feel at home.
6. Did you know that you actually can grow small by trying to be big.
7. Money will not buy everything--it will buy amusement but not happiness.
8. Happiness is not something earned, but it is a by-product of an attitude--an attitude toward others.
9. Hatred of others does not affect their peace of mind, but it certainly can ruin ours.
10. Sometimes we forget to turn off the sound when our mind goes blank.
11. The real secret to being a somebody is to work diligently at being a knowbody.
12. The road to success is always under construction and you will find many detours in it.
13. It's nice to know what you're talking about, but it isn't always good to talk about everything you know.
14. One of the greatest enemies that we can ever face in life is the illusion that there will be more time tomorrow than there is today.
15. Too many people are willing to carry the stool when there's a piano to be moved.
16. Good conversation depends as much on listening as it does on speaking.
17. Argument: Two people trying to get in the last word first.
18. We know we have reached middle age when we are warned to slow down by a doctor instead of the police.
19. Hardening of the heart ages people more quickly than hardening of the arteries.
20. It isn't necessary to blow out the other person's light in order to let your own shine.

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MSHA, Office of Holmes  
Safety Association  
Educational Policy & Development  
P.O. Box 25367  
Denver, Colorado 80225



HOLMES SAFETY ASSOCIATION  
MEETING REPORT FORM

For the month of \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL meetings held this month \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL attendance this month \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Number \_\_\_\_\_ (See address label, if incorrect, please indicate change.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone No.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

FILL OUT - FOLD AND STAPLE - FREE MAIL-IN

NOTE: BE SURE OUR ADDRESS SHOWS

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If you do not care to receive this Bulletin, please check here and return this form.

Please include any change of address below:

The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association was founded in 1916 by 24 leading National organizations of the mining industries.

The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association is named to commemorate the first director of the Bureau of Mines for his efforts in reducing accidents and illness throughout the mineral industries.

The following is the different award criteria:

Type "A" Awards - For Acts of Heroism

The awards are medals with Medal of Honor Certificate.

Type "A" - For Acts of Heroic Assistance

The awards are Certificates of Honor.

Type B-1 Awards - For Individual Workers

(40 years continuous work experience without injury that resulted in lost workdays)

The awards are Certificate of Honor, Gold Pins and Gold Decal.

Type B-2 Awards - For Individual Officials

(For record of group working under their supervision)

The awards are Certificate of Honor.

Type C Awards - For Safety Records

(For all segments of the mineral extractive industries, meeting adopted criteria)

The awards are Certificate of Honor.

Other Awards - For Individual Workers

(For 10, 20, or 30 years without injury resulting in lost workdays)

The awards are 30 years-Silver Pin and Decal, 20 years-Bronze Pin and Decal, 10 years-Decal bearing insignia.

Special Awards - For Small Operators

(Mine operators with 25 employees or less with outstanding safety records)

The awards are Certificate of Honor!

Contact: HSA Office

Department of Labor  
MSHA, Holmes Safety Association  
4800 Forbes Avenue, Room A268  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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