

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

June 4, 1959

Iron County is recoiling under the shock of an underground cave-in at the Sherwood Mine in Mineral Hills that claimed the lives of five miners and sent eight others to the hospital. Michigan State and local authorities continue the investigation into the cause of the fall of rock and sand that sent hot vaporous sulfur gases whipping through underground passages leaving the dead and injured in its wake. A total of thirty men were underground at 9 AM Monday morning when the supporting pillar on one side of the stope above the 1,000-foot level gave way collapsing the floor at this level setting off a the chain reaction disaster. The majority of the miners were working on the 1,200-foot level while some were on the 1,425-foot level. All operations at the mine have been suspended until the investigation is completed and a safety inspection determines when it is safe to resume operations. Miners killed include from Crystal Falls - Howard Groop (31) and Einar Johnson (59); Iron River - Carl R. Anderson (40) and Ingver Webster (51); Caspian - August Zucal (51).