

Here, I have a formula

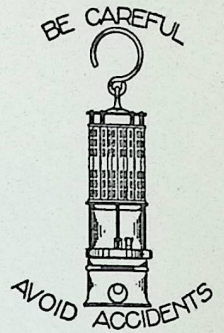
Safety - Misc.

THOMAS ALLEN
CHIEF INSPECTOR

OFFICE OF
STATE INSPECTOR OF COAL MINES

~~414~~ STATE OFFICE BUILDING
222 CAPITOL ANNEX.
DENVER, COLORADO

7/7/40



Mr. Vern Murray
Safety Engineer, W. Coal Co.,
Rock Springs, Wyo.

Dear Vern, I have a formidable request to make
of you experts in Rock Springs. & THAT IS —

Would you please make up four (4) sets of
three (3) problems for the First Aid Contest to be held
here on Aug 1st. Please make up the solutions also.

We have four groups going on the Field — three (3)
Seniors & one (1) Junior or Boy Scout Group.

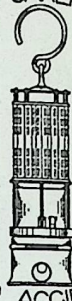
We would need three (3) problems for each & a tie
problem. Make them each the same working time
— that is each problem; As we will start them all
together & finish all together. We will have all four
groups on the Field at one time, set in arrangement
where each group is separated from the other. But to avoid
confusion of some working & others not working we want
them all to start & stop at the same time. As, say the first
problem takes 10 minutes; the second problem 12 minutes; the
third problem 15 minutes on all groups.

THOMAS ALLEN
CHIEF INSPECTOR

2
OFFICE OF
STATE INSPECTOR OF COAL MINES

~~414 STATE OFFICE BUILDING~~
222 CAPITOL ANNEX.
DENVER, COLORADO

BE CAREFUL



AVOID
ACCIDENTS

I hope I am not intruding too much
on your time & your pleasant personality in thrusting
this work on to you

We will mimeograph the required number of copies
when you send us the originals.

Thanking you with Best Wishes to
All the Gang

Tom Allen

F. P. McCALL,
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION

H. A. RENNY, President
S. D. BRIGGS, Clerk
ROBERT NORRIS, Treasurer
G. E. BULLOCK
FRANK RYDER

Hanna Public Schools

School District Number 7

Hanna, Wyoming

P

April 12, 1938

Mr. R. R. Knill, Safety Engineer
Union Pacific Coal Company,
Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Dear Mr. Knill:

Reference is made to the letter of Mr. E. H. Denny under date of April 6th with regard to the time at which Mr. Bird would find it convenient to be at Hanna Schools for the examination of the members of the Safety Class and I wish to advise that May 5th. as designated in Mr. Denny's letter will be entirely satisfactory with us and we will call this class for examination at any hour that will be convenient with Mr. Bird.

For your information I wish to say that there are four girls and ten boys in this class.

Very sincerely yours,

F. P. McCall
Superintendent

FPM/ac

cc to Mr. E. H. Denny
Mr. O. G. Sharrer
Mr. J. B. Moulton,

THE UNION PACIFIC COAL COMPANY

TO NEW EMPLOYEES:

You have accepted employment as an experienced workman.

This company does not want men who are careless and who thereby lay themselves and their fellow workmen open to injury.

No matter in what kind of a job you will work you are joining a group of careful workmen directed by careful foremen and you will be expected to keep up with them in the matter of safety.

Over half of the men injured in our mines are hurt at the working face by top coal and rock. This coal is high and the loose coal on the face must be watched.

Examine the place where you work and
"MAKE IT SAFE."

A. W. Dickinson

Safety Engineer.

June 28, 1924

F. L. McCarty
Thos. Foster
T. H. Butler
Geo. A. Brown
J. C. Hulen
Wm. Redshaw

Enclosed clipping from this week's issue of the
Rock Springs Rocket is timely and suggestive.

Any indiscreet use of fire crackers by the young-
sters should be met by a discreet supervision by all
officials in each camp.

In the past, the company has experienced heavy
losses from a mis-directed sky-rocket or Roman candle and
during the coming week, watchmen will be directed to use
especial vigilance in eliminating this hazard.

You will please see that any gathering of rubbish
etc, which might serve as a fire hazard is removed, and that
on the nights of July 3rd and 4th, if you consider your night
watchmen force inadequate, that an additional watchman be put
on for these nights.

FIRECRACKERS BRING MENACE OF FIRE

Youngsters are cautioned against the indiscreet use of fire crackers this week of the glorious Fourth, the fire chief announced yesterday.

With proper regard for safety being employed, fire crackers in the main cease to be a danger, but carelessness often creeps in, according to the chief, and a fire or injuries to children is liable to result.

Youngsters are cautioned to explode the crackers in places where buildings may be out of danger; especially does this apply to Roman candles, sky rockets, and other forms of crackers where the explosion takes place at a distance. Extreme caution should be used in the direction crackers of this nature are pointed when they are about to be fired.

Rock Springs - March 27, 1925.

Mr. J. A. Smith:

I notice that a good many of our oxygen tanks for helmets are not painted any distinctive color so that we may know them from the commercial tanks of oxygen being shipped to us. I would suggest that you arrange at all of our camps to have some distinctive mark on the oxygen we use for helmet work. My remembrance is that we formerly painted a red and white stripe around the center of the tank. Wish you would look into this and see what we can develop so that there will be no mistake in having men use commercial oxygen for helmet work as you understand this is different oxygen than that used for the helmet work.

Georg B. Meyer

cb

Omaha - April 15, 1925.

Mr. J. A. Smith:

I have given a good deal of thought to the safety items discussed at the meeting held in the First Aid Hall, Rock Springs, April 8th, and certain definite impressions linger very strongly with me, which in substance are:

- (a) Our mine supervisory forces are still looking on our safety campaign as a transient institution, which, after having a brief day, will be a thing forgotten.
- (b) That the daily safety program is very largely, by our superintendents and subordinate mine officials, looked upon as consisting almost wholly of putting in the certain specific improvements that are authorized, forgetful of the fact that an open door, failure to carry air to one point at the face, careless handling of explosives by one man, the improper installation and maintenance of a piece of equipment, with failure to maintain proper clearance at a given point, as well as many other similar things, all of which are 95% supervision, carry the full potential of an individual fatality or a major accident.

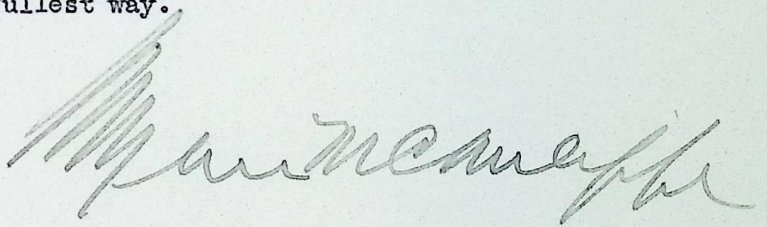
As I stated to the superintendents and foremen, no expenditure on the part of the Company, or no army of supervisory general officers, can be made to serve as a substitute for the proper attitude of mind on the part of the men directly in charge of operation, and that is something that we must get, if it is necessary to relieve the men we have and get men who are capable of developing that attitude.

To me it seems rather tragic that such things as a defectively hung door, which will not definitely close, should be allowed to exist in one of our mines. My understanding is that an open door is looked upon as the most plausible cause for the Sublet accident, costing thirty-nine lives, last year.

I hope you will press each of the individual points developed by the Joint Committee at the first examination, as well as that now under way, to such conclusion with our mine superintendents that a condition once found will not be found again in the same property.

Please see that Mr. McClelland develops an equally right attitude as regards ventilation.

Am sending copy of this letter to Mr. Pryde, with the feeling that he will support you in the fullest way.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. A. McNamee". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the main body of text.

CC-Mr. G. B. Pryde

Rock Springs - April 28, 1925.

Mr. A. W. Dickinson:

I am advised by Mr. Smith that the joint examination of the Safety Committee yesterday developed the fact that No. 4 main slope in No. 4 Mine, Rock Springs, was over two hundred feet ahead of the air. He immediately ordered these working places stopped which, of course, was the proper thing to do, and reported this matter to me in your absence.

Talked with Mr. McCarty regarding this situation and am inclined to believe that he overlooked this situation.

You probably recall that when Mr. McAuliffe had all the Superintendents in my office some time ago, we went over the last report of the Safety Committees for all mines and he very strongly stressed the fact that ventilation must be kept up to the working face, and I thought that was thoroughly understood by all present and, personally, I am laboring under no misconception as to Mr. McAuliffe's attitude in the matter which is entirely right and proper. I cannot conceive why these orders should not have been conveyed by all Superintendents to their Foremen and immediately compliance demanded.

I wish you would at once make a rigid investigation of this case, getting all the particulars from Mr. Smith, finding out from Mr. McCarty if he failed to transmit the instructions received at the meeting with Mr. McAuliffe to his Foremen and if he did not do so, why he failed to do so.

On the other hand, the Mine Foreman is a certified man, having been certified by the State to take care of the safety of the men and the property and I can see no excuse for his failure to comply with the State Laws with regard to ventilation.

After you have investigated this case thoroughly, I shall expect

in the absence of any extenuating circumstances that you order Mr. Woods' immediate discharge.

It seems that we must start some place to impress upon our officials the desire of the higher officials of The Union Pacific Coal Company to comply with the State Mining Laws.

Glory D. Hyde

✓ CC-Mr. J. A. Smith

Omaha - June 5, 1925.

Mr. J. A. Smith:

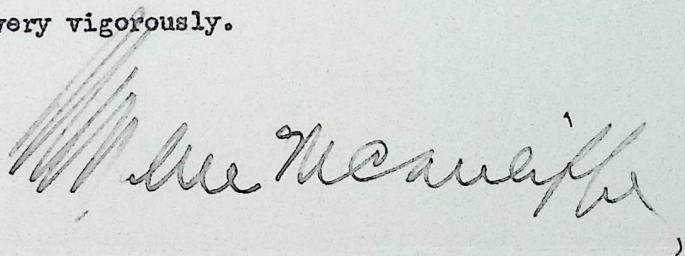
Your weekly report of June 2nd: I regret the controversy between individual members of the Union and the State Inspector. In a case of this sort our duty is clear -

1st - Where we are wrong the property should be put right at once, and that without regard to expense.

2nd - Where the State Inspector is right we should support him.

I feel that we have obtained from Mr. Dyer of the Bureau of Mines a very broad analysis of our ventilation situation, which I definitely feel is of paramount importance, all else secondary thereto, and I am hopeful that Mr. Denny's reports will be equally constructive.

I feel that our ventilation situation is not yet perfect and that we will have to attack that very vigorously.

W. M. McAniff

Rock Springs - November 2nd, 1925.

Subject: Report of disposal of the cases of violation of State law, Mines 2 and 8, Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Mr. Geo. B. Pryde:

On Thursday, October 29th, Mr. William Murray, inspecting engineer for the Leasing Department of the U. S. Geological Survey, while making his regular inspection underground in Mine No. 8, developed the fact that six underground employes had in their possession "matches and other inflammable materials". Upon this infraction of the State law and The Union Pacific Coal Company rules being reported to Superintendent F. L. McCarty, the men apprehended were laid off immediately and the matter reported to this office.

In discussion of the case with State Mine Inspector Hugh McLeod on Saturday morning, October 31st, it was arranged that the offenders, including also two men from Mine No. 2 who were charged with the same infraction, should be brought to my office in Rock Springs on Monday morning at ten o'clock.

Accordingly, at ten o'clock of this date, the eight men concerned were brought in and there were also present the Reverend Father Anton Schiffrer of the North Side Catholic Church, Federal inspector William Murray, State Mine Inspector Hugh McLeod, President Martin Cahill of the U.M.W. of A., District 22, and Vice President George Young of the same District. Safety Engineer Jack Smith was also present.

I made a general statement of the case and the charges for this office, then requested Inspector Murray to state the facts in the apprehension of the offenders. State Mine Inspector McLeod was then called upon for a statement as to the existing mining law and the attitude of the State mining department in the premises. Mr. McLeod's address to the meeting was very

Omaha - November 5, 1925.

Mr. G. B. Pryde:

Yours 3rd, with details of investigation conducted regarding eight employes working underground in Mine No. 8, Rock Springs, with matches and smoking materials in their possession:

We have not brought our supervisory force up to par on the question of safety matters yet, it rather discouraging that the U. S. Bureau of Mines man should find wholesale deflections in one of our mines, this man naturally watched closely by the miners, who perhaps feel that his authority is greater than our own supervisory force. If eight men were found in No. 8 with tobacco, I feel safe in saying that fifty to one hundred are using such in our seventeen mines.

We will have to relieve some of our mine managers, foremen and patrolmen if deflections of this sort are allowed to continue.

I wish you and Mr. Smith would get before our supervisory force the fact that the responsibility for disobedience of law and rules is just as much the offense of the foreman as of the individual, although the foreman may not be subject to legal penalty.

I would suggest that a new handbill be put out and posted, stressing the situation developed in No. 8 and thereafter the law be enforced impartially against all alike, copies

- 2 -

of the bill to be furnished Mr. McLeod and Mr. Young, and thereafter Mr. Smith should reproduce same with a strong article in the Safety Department of the December Magazine.

Original Signed
EUGENE MCAULIFFE

CC-Mr. J. A. Smith ✓

Personal

Omaha - May 7, 1926

Mr. J. A. Smith:

I think you will agree with me that we have approached the hour when our entire operating staff should definitely realize that I am in earnest in the matter of safeguarding our mines. Perhaps we might say that they should be expected to go through a period of adjustment with what seemed to them to be new theories of mine management, etc., three years, however, in my opinion, representing sufficient time to accomplish this.

I am distinctly disappointed, however, in the fact, that after three years persistent exploitation on my part of the necessity for ventilation in working places and at all faces, it still seems to be necessary for Mr. McLeod to enter our mines telling us what we are not doing and what we should do, as was the case in his report of April 21st on Superior B Mine, where he found dip panels being driven with brattice 6 to 12 inches below the roof and above the floor, loose material likewise strewn along the haulage ways.

We have suspended two mine foremen for failure to enforce rules and further deflections will undoubtedly result in dismissal; however, I think our ventilation engineer will find it necessary to exert more aggressiveness and I trust you will personally see that Mr. McClelland and every man you come in contact with, understands that the suspension period following three years of persuasion, will not be continued indefinitely; on the other hand, we propose to enforce the rules, making the mines as safe as possible if it is necessary to attain same through dismissal and replacement. I am sure Mr. Pryde fully concurs with me in this position.

CC. Mr. G. B. Pryde

Wm. McClelland

Rock Springs - July 12th, 1926.

~~Mr. A. W. Dickinson:~~

I am of the very definite opinion that our rule with regard to smoking in the mines in the Rock Springs field is not being enforced, and you no doubt recall the case of a man killed recently at Winton, when both tobacco and matches were found on his person after he died.

Wish that a very determined effort might be made by our Mine Superintendents in each district to find out whether or not we are getting the results that we should. Inasmuch as we have placed these mines upon a closed light and permissible powder basis and have placed Mine Examiners in the mines and look upon these mines as being potential gaseous ones, we should follow the same method of procedure with regard to enforcing the no smoking rule as we do in gaseous mines.

Would suggest, therefore, that a system of search be instituted, this search to take place at the mantrip, and where we have no mantrip the men should be searched as they enter the mine, it preferable to have the search made by two officials. When men are found with smoking material they should be discharged. If we do not follow up this matter closely in a short time we will have all the men smoking and, as I said before, do not believe the matter has been closely enough followed up by our Mine Foremen. Am not in favor of searching men inside the mine as very little can be accomplished in this manner as there are numerous places where men can hide smoking material in the mine if they are so inclined. Wish you and Mr. Smith would give this your personal attention as I would like to be assured that we are getting the results we should.

CC-Mr. J. A. Smith ✓
cb

Original Signed:
GEORGE B. PRYDE

Rock Springs - March 28th, 1927.

Mr. J. A. Smith:

Am wondering if you have taken any further action on
extending the use of goggles in our mines, such as you institu-
ted at the Reliance mine.

Glory B. Ruple

ab

Rock Springs - June 22nd, 1927.

Mr. J. A. Smith:

I am wondering if you have done anything regarding the suggestion I made some time ago that all our safety men carry canes. Am also wondering what you have done with regard to organizing volunteer fire departments in our respective mine districts. You will probably recall I had this matter up with you some time ago.

Georg E. Ryde

CC. Mr. A. W. Dickinson.
jg.

Rock Springs - July 21st, 1927.

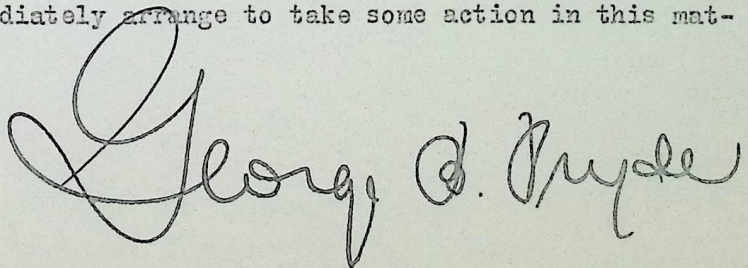
Mr. J. A. Smith:

I notice that the combined stretcher and splint that Dr. Fuhrer fixed up for us is lying on the floor at the Carpenter Shop in Rock Springs and has been there for some time. I think this is a rather bad situation, as the Doctor brought forth a proposal that we all thought so good that we went to the extent of making plans, having it written up very extensively in our magazine. Yet, regardless of that, no one has taken enough interest in it to see that it is finished and put in service. This, to me, represents a situation for which there is not much excuse.

If this stretcher is a good thing, let us have it finished; if not, let us throw it in the scrap pile and forget about it, but certainly something should be done about having it finished and put in service, instead of having it lie around indefinitely in the Carpenter Shop at Rock Springs.

In talking with Mr. Gibson some time ago, he stated that it was brought in here to be padded. Certainly he should have followed up this job, seeing that it was completed. If the job cannot be completed here, the stretcher should be taken back to Reliance, finished and put in service. If it is a good thing, being workable and practical, more should be put in service.

I hope you will immediately arrange to take some action in this matter.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "George D. Pryde". The signature is written in a cursive style with large, flowing loops.

CC: Mr. A. W. Dickinson.
Mr. M. W. Medill.

ab

Rock Springs - August 22nd, 1927.

Mr. J. A. Smith:

The time of the year has arrived when we should give attention to the cutting of all weeds around our mine buildings, as a little later on they will constitute a definite fire hazard.

Glory B. Aydes

CC: Mr. A. W. Dickinson.

ab

Rock Springs - June 30th, 1928.

Mr. A. W. Dickinson:
Mr. J. A. Smith: ✓

Now that the period of vacation is on, a great many boys are frequenting our shops and other mine buildings. A few days ago I found a number of boys riding the railroad cars that were being dropped from the tipples at Winton.

I wish that this matter might be taken up with the Superintendents, they in turn to caution all employees to see that boys are not allowed to enter upon our premises where work is going on, this particularly true with regard to our stables, tipples, machine shop, railroad tracks, and other places.

I noticed, also, a few days ago, our mine stock running around the town of Winton. I think they should not be allowed to do this unless we have the stable boss or someone with them, as there is danger of the children being kicked, and there is also danger of this live stock straying off into the country. I understand this happened some time ago at Winton, and we were at some expense to recover the two head of stock that strayed away.

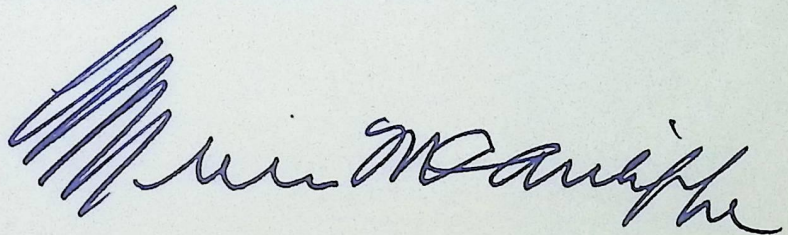
George D. Myde

oh

Omaha - November 22, 1928

Mr. J. A. Smith:

Regarding the failure of certain Unions to join in the quarterly mine inspection, the locals at Hanna, Cumberland and "C" Mine Superior failing to join shown by your letters of August 9th and November 19th. I have reports with letter from you dated January 7th, August 9th and November 19th, indicating that a quarterly inspection was skipped in the first half of the year. Please advise me regarding this and give me at an early date a list of the mines shown separately by the several inspections that failed to join in the inspection during the year 1928.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. M. Darragh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "W" consisting of several overlapping loops.

Rock Springs - November 4th, 1929.

Mr. J. A. Smith:

I notice on an accident report from Superior that an outside man fell on the ice, when carrying powder, and injured himself. I wish you would take up with all Mine Superintendents the matter of having a sufficient amount of rock salt during the cold weather to melt all ice around the Mine Buildings, Manway Entrances, etc., to prevent accidents.

George Muffs

Union Pacific Coal Company

TO TENANTS OF THE UNION PACIFIC COAL COMPANY BUILDINGS:

My attention has been called to the fact that casing-head gasoline (natural gas liquified by condensation) is being used by some of our employes occupying Company houses.

As this gasoline vaporizes at a low temperature, it is readily subject to ignition and explosion if exposed to fire or flame (including lighted smoking material) or heat generated by friction, electric sparking, etc.

All employes are warned against storing this commodity in or about buildings, tenements, garages, or outhouses, which are the property of this Company. The violation of this rule, if detected, will result in the cancellation of the rental agreement covering the property involved.

GEORGE B. PRYDE,
Vice-President and General Manager.

Rock Springs—March 9, 1931.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF MINES

WASHINGTON January 10, 1933.

Mr. V. O. Murray, Safety Engr.,
The Union Pacific Coal Co.,
Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Dear Mr. Murray:

In accordance with yours of December 31, I am transmitting some information concerning permissible explosives. If the data which you receive ~~are~~ not of the type which you desire, you will please call my attention to the fact and I will try then to send you something else.

I am glad to note both from your letter and from one recently received from Mr. Pryde that your organization has had a successful year in safety. This is as it should be and I hope that 1933 will be even more successful than was its predecessor.

All of us were extremely sorry to learn of the death of Schoning. As to what occurred;—it appears that he left Seattle to do some field work and on the night of December 22 was at Centralia, Washington, having spent the day in doing some first-aid training. He apparently was expecting to continue training work on the 23rd, but in the middle of the night became ill and dressed and went down to the hotel lobby and asked that a doctor be secured. After the doctor arrived and gave him some medicine, he went back to his room and apparently sat up in bed; and several hours later was found in that position, dead. As far as we can learn he was suffering from acute indigestion, although that diagnosis may not be a correct one.

Yours truly,

D. Harrington

D. HARRINGTON,
Chief Engineer,
Safety Division.

*Tell Tom Gibson that he need have no fear of
any taking measures towards his deportation; any
such measures might affect me also!*

Rock Springs - March 7th, 1933.

Mr. V. O. Murray:
Mr. T. H. Butler:
Mr. M. W. Medill:

Am afraid our safety program is not going over,
especially in Rock Springs and Reliance.

Would suggest that you redouble your efforts
at these districts, impressing all foremen with the import-
ance of holding accidents to a minimum.

Am wondering if slow working time is not
inducing men to lay off with slight injuries where if the
mines were working better they would report to work. However,
we are not getting our safety program over at these districts.

Chas. Bayless