The Flames Caught Us

Cherry Mine 1909

A Bibliography

This bibliography includes titles from the collections of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM), the OCLC WorldCat online catalog, and documented Internet resources. Bibliographic entries with call numbers in bold print are from the ALPLM collections. Descriptive paragraphs for some of the works listed in this bibliography come from the OCLC record. Please check your local library for these and other related materials.

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Audio-Visual Department. Five folders hold 200 black and white photographs and 12 postcards which include views of the Cherry Mine disaster, the survivors, rescue operations, the morgue, the coroner’s jury deliberations, and funerals.

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Newspaper Microfilm Department. Many Illinois newspapers reporting on the Cherry Mine Disaster can be found on microfilm in the library’s Newspaper Microfilm Collection. Reels of microfilm are available through inter-library loan.


Buck, Frank P. The Cherry Mine Disaster. Chicago: M. A. Donohue, 1910. RD896/B922c


Cartlidge, Oscar. *Rules to Be Observed in Case of Mine Fires and Explosions*. Springfield, Illinois: Illinois Mine Fire Fighting and Rescue Station Commission, 1913. Following the Cherry Mine disaster, the state of Illinois established the Commission on Mine Fire Fighting and Rescue Stations in the Coal Fields in 1910. Teams of rescue workers were trained to be dispatched in pre-equipped rail cars to assist in rescue efforts at mine accidents throughout the state. With the establishment of the Illinois Department of Mines and Minerals in 1917, these responsibilities were transferred to the new Department. Twenty page book includes check-lists of mine rescue supplies. Held by the Illinois State Library.


Cherry Relief Commission. *The Work of the First Year of the Cherry Relief Commission*. “This report was prepared for the commission by Mr. J. E. Williams, vice-chairman.” [Chicago? 1911?]. **IG896/C522w**


Elliott, Sarah Barnwell (1848-1928). *An Epoch-Making Settlement Between Labor and Capital; a Compilation Made from Letters, Reports and Official Statements Regarding the Cherry Mine Disaster….* Reprinted from the *Forensic Quarterly* for June, 1910. Sewanee, Tennessee: The University of the South Press, 1910. Also available on microfiche and microfilm at other locations. **HFK/E46e**

Federal Writers Project. (Box) Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. **Manuscripts Department**. Box 13, Cherry Folder. In this folder are multiple summaries of the disaster, a mention of commemorative activities held during the 1930’s, and a hand-drawn map of the relationship between the location of mine buildings and the cemetery. An inventory is available with folder level control in the library’s manuscript reading room.


Illinois. Board of Administration. *Report to His Excellency, Edward F. Dunne, Governor of Illinois by Board of Administration: Disbursement $100,000 Appropriation for Relief of Cherry Mine Sufferers*. [Springfield, Illinois: Illinois] Board of Administration, 1914. Provides information on the $100,000 disbursement for victims of the St. Paul coal mine disaster, which occurred on November 13, 1909, in Cherry, Illinois. Also includes a list of the victims with the names of their beneficiaries. Held at the Illinois State Library.


Illinois. Mine Rescue Station Commission. *Mine Rescue Station Commission of the State of Illinois: Report to the Governor and General Assembly of Work Accomplished...* 3 vol. Springfield, Illinois: Illinois State Journal, 1910-1917. Following the Cherry Mine disaster, the Illinois Commission on Mine Fire Fighting and Rescue Stations in Coal fields was created on March 4, 1910. Regional rescue stations were established at LaSalle, Benton and Springfield, Illinois; rescue train cars were equipped for quick mine disaster response; and safety training classes were provided at Illinois mines. When the Illinois Civil Administrative Code of 1917 created the Department of Mines and Minerals, the responsibilities for mine rescue were transferred to that Department. Held at the Illinois State Library.


*McDonald. Duncan McDonald Papers, 1894-1961*. (Box) Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Manuscripts Department. McDonald was president of the United Mine Workers of America, District of Illinois. Box 2 contains an account of his experiences at Cherry and an accountant’s report of the relief commission for June 5, 1910-December 31, 31, 1922. An inventory is available with folder level control in the library’s manuscript reading room.


*Oglesby Family Papers, 1845-1938. (Box).* Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. **Manuscripts Department.** John Dean Gillett Oglesby, Box 30. An inventory is available with folder level control in the library’s manuscript reading room.


**Sherman. Lawrence Y. Sherman Papers.** (Box) Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. **Manuscripts Department.** The former lieutenant governor was the president of the Illinois State Board of Administration controlling 17 state charities. Box 138 of his papers include minutes of several Cherry Relief Committee meetings, as well as 3 copies of the booklet “Work of the First Year of the Cherry Relief Commission.” An inventory is available with folder level control in the library’s manuscript reading room.


United Mine Workers of Illinois. The Cherry Mine Disaster. Report of Duncan McDonald, President of, and Seymour Stedman, Attorney for, the United Mine Workers of Illinois, Based Upon the Independent Investigation Conducted by the Organization during the Months of September and December, 1909, and January, 1910, and Adopted by the Executive Board. Available in print and on microfilm. [Chicago: Campbell Co., Printers, 1910]. RD896/U58c


Williams. John Elias Williams Papers, 1856, 1898-1925 [1909-1919]. (Box) Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Manuscript Department. (Box + BV + Oversize). Williams was a Streator resident who was instrumental in mediating a financial settlement for the families of deceased miners following the Cherry Mine disaster in 1909. Papers are arranged in chronological order. An inventory with folder level control is available in the library manuscripts reading room.