

than sixteen (16) yards, as the district mine inspector by written safety order may require.

SEC. 76. The operator of every such mine shall provide and maintain under regulations of the Bureau, sufficient openings to the surface from each seam of coal worked, to assure at all times free ingress and egress from every part of the mine, and reasonable safety for all persons employed therein.

SEC. 77. The Bureau shall by regulation prescribe such reasonable provision of traveling ways, and upon haulage roads for such refuge holes of ample area and height and for other protective devices, and for such frequent periodic examination, care, and inspection of same, as may adequately protect all persons entering into such mine from dangers incident to mine transportation.

SEC. 78. All abandoned mines or portions of mines, and all abandoned openings and sinkholes to the surface shall be securely fenced off at the entrances thereto.

SEC. 79. The operator shall direct and see that as the miners advance in their excavation, all dangerous and doubtful pieces of strata overhead are taken down or carefully secured; and to that end the operator shall adopt sound methods of timbering the roof and spragging the coal, uniform throughout the mine so far as practicable and approved by the district mine inspector. Any workman who neglects or refuses to obey any proper instructions or orders relating to securing his working place shall be suspended or discharged; and if such neglect or refusal results in injury to any person, the name of such workman and the facts shall be reported to the district mine inspector; provided, that if any such workman shall have previously given timely notice to the operator of his need for materials, or of an existing dangerous condition which he could not personally remedy, such workman shall not be held to have violated the provisions of this section.

CHAPTER XI—*Shaft Mining.*

SEC. 80. At every mine worked by shaft and employing more than ten men at any time for any purpose, the Bureau shall prescribe by regulation for adequate provision and constant maintenance of at least two distinct and separate means of ingress and egress, available to every person in and accessible from every part of such mine; and for sufficient stair-