The full details of this accident which occurred many years ago are unknown. However, it is clear that the young man was splashed with a strongly corrosive liquid, probably a strong acid. Fortunately, he was wearing his safety glasses at the time. Note that although his skin is seriously impacted his eyes are fine. Eye tissue is very sensitive to acids and bases – permanent eye damage is highly likely in such an incident. The message is clear: WEAR THOSE SAFETY GLASSES!

For more information on safety eyewear see:
http://www.ehs.ucsb.edu/units/labsfty/labrsc/lseyewear.htm