

MINE FIRE IS FATAL
TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE IN NO. 1
SHAFT AT HANNA, WYO.

Nineteen Men in the Shaft Were Engaged in Fighting the Flames—Second Explosion Occurs and State Mine Inspector and Rescuers Perish.

Hanna, Wyo., March 30.—A carefully prepared list of the missing as a result of the two explosions in mine No. 1 of the Union Pacific Coal company contains fifty-eight names and of this number, five dead bodies have been recovered. Before further attempt at rescuing the dead can be made, the fire in the tenth level, which was the direct cause of the two explosions, must be extinguished. Work to this end consumed the entire day, efforts being directed especially to close the west slope, which, it is hoped, will eventually smother the raging flames.

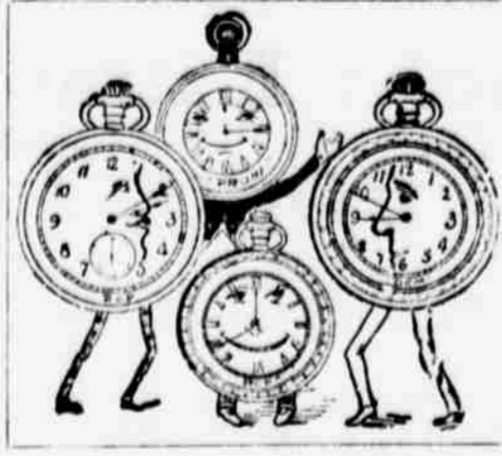
The known dead are: Robert Warburton, Peter Munson, Alexander Tennant, Matt Huhtala, Benjamin Perry.

The missing are: Davis Elias, state mine inspector; Alexander Briggs, mine superintendent; Joseph Burton, Alfred Dodds, James Knox, Gus Ramie, P. A. Boyd, G. Lahti, John Yakonon, Emile Selfrust, Thomas Flint, John Evans, Robert Herron, Harry Lyons, Jacob Rimmer, William Pascoe, Richard Wilson, Frank Collins, Peter Travis, J. Dodds, Charles Hughes, Alfred Holliday, Samuel McCormick, L. Conty, John Norkoll, William Johnson, Albert Riley, Bert Fink, Grant Routt, F. Franti, Isaac Wimer, Andrew Blrcher, Henry H. Blrcher, James M. Hoy, Andrew Hoy, Harry Tate, John Tate, James Smeaton, James Burns, A. Madden, Charles Harris, John Arthur, Isaac Penn, John Cookson, William Joki, John Tully, Chris Ferguson, Robert Armstrong, Samuel Cundy, Victor Cundy, Thomas Cundy, Samuel Jacobs.

Details of the Disaster.

It was while Superintendent Briggs and eighteen companions were fighting the fire at the tenth level that the first explosion of gas occurred. But one man is known to have escaped death was with this party. This was Charles Harris, colored. After going to his home to notify his family of his escape, Harris returned to the mine with the rescuing party organized by State Mine Inspector Elias to recover the bodies of the unfortunate who met death in the first explosion. Harris' name appears in the list resulting from the second explosion. According to the story of Campbell, who reached the entrance of the mine with the bodies of Warburton, Munson and Perry, killed in the first explosion, and thereby escaped death himself, Inspector Elias scattered the members of the rescue party through the entrance for a distance of 1,500 feet, removing wreckage and making temporary repairs of damage caused by the first explosion. The fire at the tenth level was raging furiously and Inspector Elias and several others with him discussed the wisdom of bratticing No. 8 entrance. It was decided that this would be suicidal, as the gas would be forced back into the fire at the tenth level and would probably cause an explosion more ter-

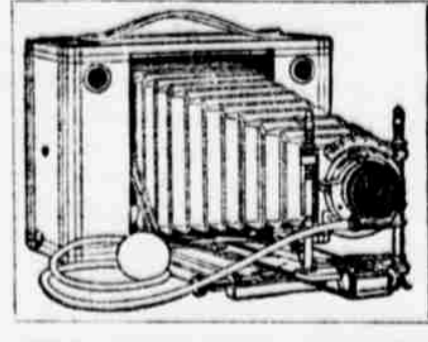
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...and direful than the one which had already snuffed out the lives of nearly a score of their comrades. The party continued to work their way slowly toward the fire, abandoning the idea of closing No. 8 entrance way.

Second Explosion Occurs.

It is thought, however, that some of the stragglers in the rear, struck with the same idea of cutting off the spread of the gas by closing the entrance, immediately put the plan into effect, with the result as reasoned out by Inspector Elias and his immediate followers. Be that as it may, the second explosion occurred, and although it is known practically that fifty-eight persons met death in the two explosions, preparations are being made to care for more than this number of dead bodies should it become necessary. Already seventy coffins have been delivered here. The reason that no definite estimate can be made of the number in the mine when the second explosion occurred is that the rescue party was made up hurriedly and many who entered the mine went in after the hurriedly organized squad had been inside the mine several minutes.

It was not until daylight that the bodies of Alexander Tennant and Matt Huhtala were found and they were found lying on the prairie some distance from the east slope. Tennant's head and one arm was blown off, and Huhtala's body was horribly mangled also. Tennant's head has not been found yet. The dismembered arm was found quite a distance from where the rest of the body was picked up. This evidence of the terrific force of the second explosion makes certain that none can possibly have lived through it.

That no one hesitated in responding to the call for volunteers in their rescue of their fellow workmen after the first explosion is shown in the fact that not a working official of the three

names of the Union Pacific Coal company in this camp or a miners' union official is left.

The disaster brings the number of victims of the explosions in No. 1 during the twenty years of its operation to the neighborhood of 300. The greatest previous loss of life occurred on June 30, 1903, when 169 men fell victims to deadly gas.

Milton to Succeed Senator Bryan.
 Tallahassee, Fla., March 28.—Governor Broward appointed Hill Milton of Marianna to succeed the late Senator Bryan of Florida in the United States senate.

KILLS MESSENGER; LOOTS CAR
Robber Slays Wells-Fargo Employee
 Near Newton, Kan.

Newton, Kan., March 30.—O. A. Bailey of Kansas City, an express messenger of the Wells-Fargo Express company was killed by an unknown person on Santa Fe train No. 115 between Florence and Newton. The murder was a very brutal one, with robbery as the object. The local and through safes were ransacked and at least \$1,000 in money and some jewelry taken.

The dead body of Messenger Bailey was found at 4 a. m., when the train reached Newton. It was stretched on the floor of the car, the head beaten to a pulp and lying in a pool of blood. The back of the skull was crushed and the end of the car in which it was lying was spattered with blood. There was no evidence of any struggle, the indications pointing to the committing of the murder while the messenger was asleep, before he could offer resistance. Bailey was last seen alive at Strong City.

The custom of the messenger has been to go to sleep soon after leaving Florence. After being struck while sleeping and rendered unconscious his body rolled to the floor and the robber, after beating his head brutally, covered it with the dead man's coat. From the dead man's pockets keys were removed and the safes ransacked.

Two theories are held by the officers. One is that the robbers entered the car unobserved at Emporia, Strong City, or some other point along the line and concealed themselves until a favorable opportunity came, and the other is that Bailey admitted somebody he knew and considered a friend.

San Diego, Cal., March 30.—The naval tug Navajo arrived here from Magdalena bay with mail from the fleet and left again with many hundreds of mail bags aboard consigned to the vessels still in southern waters. The Navajo did not take the mail consigned to the Connecticut, which has been detached from the fleet to bring Admiral Evans to the hot springs of San Luis Obispo, Cal., for a course of treatment.

The Connecticut finished her record target practice last Thursday and, according to the men of the Navajo, the flagship is believed to have broken previous world's records with her 12-inch guns. This information is entirely unofficial, however, and may be materially changed when the correct figures are announced. There is much rivalry among the crews of the Connecticut, the Louisiana, the Kansas and the Vermont—all sister ships and all belonging to the first division of the fleet—under the immediate command of Admiral Evans himself.

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