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COAL MINE HORROR

MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED LIVES LOST IN AN EXPLOSION AT JOHNSTOWN, PA.

Disaster Occurs in the Rolling Mill Mine of the Cambria Steel Company, One of the Largest Collieries in the Country—Most of the Deaths Due to the Afterdamp Resulting From the Explosion.

Johnstown, Pa., July 14.—One hundred and five men are dead from Thursday's explosion at the Rolling Mill mine of the Cambria Steel Company. It is not probable that this record will be swelled to any great extent. And in no case is it expected the list will exceed 110 or 115. The mine workings, which it was dangerous to enter Friday, have been thoroughly explored by a searching party. At 3 a. m. the charred and mutilated bodies of fifteen victims were brought to the Westmont pit mouth and taken to the morgue. The bodies were found in the upper part of No. 4 right heading, where the explosion occurred. The bodies were all lying far in from the point of the explosion and could not be reached until the heading had been quite cleared of the noxious gases. These deaths occurred during the night at Cambria Hospital. These were among the last living victims who were brought out of the mine Friday afternoon in an unconscious condition. It is learned at the pit mouth from mine officials that every heading and chamber, both to the right and left of the main Klondike heading, were penetrated during the night and that not a trace of any dead or living victims were found. It is admitted that some might have crawled into obscure workings in their flight from the afterdamp which followed the explosion and there succumbed to the fatal influence of the gas.

The first official statement of the disaster was given by the Associated Press reporter by General Mine Superintendent George T. Robinson. He said:

Deaths Caused by Firedamp.

"As to the direct cause of the explosion I cannot exactly say. We know there was an explosion of firedamp in the sixth right heading of a section of the mine, commonly known as the Klondike. So far as I can find out now there were not more than three or four deaths from the explosion itself. The balance were caused by the afterdamp.

"Our mine officials, the mine foreman, Henry Rodgers, Fire Boss John Retallic, Machine Boss William Robinson, who is my brother, and a Slav, whose name I do not know, were back eating lunch when the explosion occurred. They immediately went down to the point of the explosion to put the stoppings in order to carry the air in its proper channel again. These were blown down by the force of the explosion.

"They, with the exception of the assistant foreman and one of the fire bosses, were overcome by afterdamp. They were found by a rescuing party and the chances are that all will recover with the exception of my brother.

"As to the rescue work I directed it to commence just as soon after the explosion as possible. We started in at 1 p. m. We started working our way down by putting up brattices in order to carry the air in with us. I suppose it was 10 o'clock at night before we came across the bodies of the living. We found twenty-five dead on our way to these four living. Twenty more we found later on. They were scattered through that section of the mine. Most of them were on their way out when caught by the fatal afterdamp."

Bodies Brought to Johnstown.

When the bodies of the victims came from the mine a long line of undertakers' wagons and picnic wagons were in waiting to take them on the roundabout road to the morgue in the city. There they were backed up to a door, where a large force of police were ready to check the great throng from pressing in too close. Body after body was taken from the wagons and borne inside. All of them were blackened and unrecognizable until the undertakers got to work. The head of one man was crushed and the only means of identifying him will be by his check number. All of the bodies were cold and stiff. The arms of most of them were twisted in front of them as if to shield their faces from fire. The left hand of one man was torn off at the wrist. The bodies now recovered were all found about two miles in from the main pit mouth.

The Rolling Mill mine has been worked for about fifty years. Five or six years ago the section where the disaster occurred was opened. The miners fancifully called it the Klondike. It is said that for the past few years gas has been noticed in it and careful inspections were kept up. In the last three years safety lamps had been carried by the men.

The company has for many years past paid to the family of every person killed in its employ \$1,000, outside of what it expended for medical purposes, and it has paid every man who has lost an eye, limb or became otherwise partially disabled, the sum of \$500. It is understood that the rule will not be deviated from.

BURIED BY FALLING WALLS.

Five Firemen Killed While Fighting Flames at Toronto.

Toronto, Ont., July 11.—Five firemen were killed in a disastrous fire which started in the old street car stables at Front and George streets, now occupied by P. McIntosh & Sons, and spread to the wholesale hay and straw warehouse of Gadsby & McCann. These establishments were swept away in an hour's time. David See, Harry Clarke, Adam Kerr, Walter Colard and Ernest Russell, firemen working outside of the McIntosh building when the brick wall, two stories high, fell and buried them. They were dead when extricated.

NEWS IN MINNESOTA

Michael Knopp, one of the oldest residents of Winona, is dead.

St. Paul has a population of 219,870 according to this year's directory figures.

The National Afro-American Press association met in annual convention at St. Paul last week.

C. L. LaGrave, one of the pioneers of the Northwest, is dead at Minneapolis, aged eighty-seven.

Ray W. Jones of Minneapolis, Republican nominee for lieutenant governor, was injured in a runaway at Frazee and will be confined to his room for a few days.

Owing to the introduction of the rural mail delivery the stage service between Wipona and Rushford, which has been run continually for forty years, has been discontinued.

The controller of the currency has approved the conversion of the Wellcome State bank to a national institution. It has been authorized to begin business with a capital of \$250,000.

A deed has just been closed whereby the S. C. Bradford Land company of Crookston becomes the owner of 1,600 acres of Polk county farm lands, for which they paid the sum of \$32,000.

The various Twin City lines terminating in Chicago are hiring all available laborers in the two cities and sending them to Chicago to take the pieces of the freight handlers now on strike there.

Headed by a 17-year-old Fred Niemann of St. Paul, a party of five drove on a place of fresh pavement, John Sparks, colored, who was acting as watchman, struck him over the head with a club, fracturing the boy's skull. The youth will probably die.

Joseph and Edward Smith were stabbed at St. Paul during a street fight and are now at the city hospital, where their injuries are said to be serious, although not fatal. Edward Maloney is under arrest, charged by the Smiths with doing the cutting.

Miss Agnes Campbell, a nurse in St. Luke's hospital at Duluth, shot and killed herself. The motive for the act is said to have been a fear of sudden death. This theory is regarded as reasonable by medical authorities, as her heart was in a diseased condition.

Henry McNell of Hassan township, Hennepin county, was struck by lightning and instantly killed. The young man was in the barn between two horses at the time he was struck. One of the horses was knocked down by the force of the bolt, but the other was not injured.

Emil Kopp, Sr., sixty-five years of age, a carpenter, was killed at Butterfield by falling from a scaffold fifteen feet high. Ed Olson, who was working with him, caught on to a window sill when the scaffold broke. Mr. Kopp struck on his head, fracturing his skull. He was dead when picked up.

County Assessor Conley of Ramsey county has completed the real estate roll for 1902, which, if it is confirmed by the board of equalization, will add nearly \$3,000,000 to the taxable realty of the county. The increase has been made on improvements, while the valuations of land has been cut down.

Mayor Hugo, the Republican candidate, remains the mayor of Duluth. The supreme court so decided Friday. A vote counted for Truelson was thrown out, thus giving Hugo a majority of four. The court held that the neglect of the judges to place their initials on the ballots did not invalidate the votes of those voting them.

A fifteen-year-old son of P. H. Johnson, residing near Kokato, and a younger brother were playing with a bottle containing powder while the parents were in town and in some way the bottle exploded. Pieces of glass cut the lad's neck and main artery. He died in a few minutes. The younger brother was also hurt, but not seriously.

In a bulletin on the lumber industry the census bureau has brought out the fact that the capital invested in the lumber business of Minnesota has increased from \$39,000,000 to \$52,000,000 during the past ten years, and the total value of the products of the industry in the state during that period increased from \$25,000,000 to \$43,000,000.

The state board of health has received a report from Waconia that Fred Schonblin, son of a farmer, was bitten by a rabid dog. He was sent to Chicago for treatment at the Pasteur institute. The same dog also bit a hog, another dog and killed two turkeys, and after being chained up, jumped over a fence and hanged itself.

The jury in the case of Captain John Fitchette of the Minneapolis police department, known as "Coffee John," after being out a little over an hour, returned a verdict of "guilty." The crime for which "Coffee John" was convicted was that of receiving a "gratuity or reward for securing the appointment of a man to a public office."

The settlers of the Cedar island lands, near Sparta, have won their case in the supreme court. This case has become famous and the squatters have fought and won against them, financially powerful. There is little question but that the lands are worth millions, as they adjoin some of the largest iron mines on the Mesaba range.

The supreme court holds that the pension system inaugurated by the Minneapolis school board is unconstitutional. The plan of the board provided that when teachers signed contracts they should agree to pay 1 per cent of their salaries to a pension fund. The district court held the action of the board illegal and the supreme court sustains the lower court.

State Auditor Dunn is dissatisfied with the order of Land Commissioner Hermann in setting aside 480,000 acres in Cook and Lake counties for a forest reserve. It practically took away all the lands in the state available as indemnity school lands. The state needs 320,000 acres to make good the deficit in these lands, and the state auditor's office has four cruisers at work in those two counties selecting lands.

The state board of health has decided to exercise supervision hereafter over the systems of water supply and sewerage in process of construction by cities and villages of Minnesota, with a view to insuring good water and proper discharge for sewerage. The board also decided to begin the inspection of dairy herds for tuberculosis. A system of inspection will be formulated and perfected so far as possible.

NEWS CONDENSATIONS.

Wednesday, July 9.

A daughter has been born to Colonel and Mrs. John Jacob Astor.

The parliament of Cape Colony has been summoned to meet Aug. 20.

John W. Greeley, a cousin of Horace Greeley, is dead at Amhurst, N. H. He was eighty-three years old.

A premature explosion of dynamite in a blast furnace slag dump near Duquesne, Pa., killed one man and dangerously injured four others.

The battleship Illinois, Admiral Crowninshield's flagship, will leave Gravesend, Eng., on Friday. It is said her destination is St. Petersburg.

Lieutenant Colonel Charles R. Barnett, quartermaster's department, U. S. A., committed suicide July 5 by jumping from a fire escape on the fourth story of a sanitarium at Battle Creek, Mich.

In contradiction of the recent report that Russia had already practically evacuated Manchuria an official dispatch, just received at St. Petersburg from Kharbin, says the evacuation has not even begun.

Thursday, July 10.

Fire at Dallas, Tex., caused a loss of \$250,000.

Lawrence Carrigan, a prominent mining man of Hancock, Mich., died at Butte, Mont., of pneumonia, after an illness of a week, aged fifty-five.

The contract has been signed and bond filed for the erection of the art gallery of the Louisiana Purchase exposition. It will cost over \$1,000,000.

A fire in a tent in which was a crowd of about 500 people blew down during a storm at Urichville, O. At least twenty-five people were injured, but no fatalities are reported.

Advices from Vera Cruz, Mex., report yellow fever as being especially virulent this season. A number of people long resident and deemed themselves immune have died.

Sylvia U. Ho, who has been an employee in the civil service department at the city hall in Chicago, has started for Denmark, her native land, where she is to marry Count Knuth-Burg, a member of one of the most illustrious and wealthy families of the country.

Friday, July 11.

King Victor Emmanuel has left for St. Petersburg to visit the czar of Russia.

Republicans of the Seventh Iowa district have renominated John A. T. Hull for congress.

The average condition of winter wheat is 77. Average condition of spring wheat 92.4.

The pope has created John Spencer Turner of New York a marquis in recognition of his pious generosity.

Extreme heat prevails throughout Italy. The temperature Thursday at Milan, Mantua and Pavia was 100 degs. Fahrenheit and there were many deaths from sunstroke.

Colonel Nathaniel McKay, the leading millionaire hotel man of Washington, died suddenly of heart failure at Atlantic City, N. J. Colonel McKay was seventy-one years of age.

The Bolivian government, through Minister Guachil, has appealed to Secretary Hay to intervene in its interest in the triangular contest between Bolivia, Peru and Brazil for possession of the territory of Acre.

Saturday, July 12.

Former President Jimenez of the republic of San Domingo has arrived at New York.

Postmaster General Payne has left Washington for his home in Wisconsin, expecting to be absent during the summer.

Mrs. Joel E. Vaile, the author, who wrote books and short stories for children, is dead at her home in Denver, aged fifty-two.

United States Consul Heinan at Odessa, Russia, cables to the secretary of state that plague has broken out at that port.

Hubbard T. Smith of Washington has been appointed deputy vice consul at Cairo, Egypt. Mr. Smith is at present a consular clerk.

The treasury department Friday shipped \$50,000 to New Orleans against deposits of Chicago. This is the first time in the history of the department that money has been shipped against deposits at Chicago.

Monday, July 14.

King Edward's rapid recovery from the effects of his recent operation continues.

King Victor Emanuel of Italy has arrived at St. Petersburg for his visit with the czar.

Uriah White, who conceived the idea which led to the founding of Ocean Grove, the famous Methodist resort of New Jersey, is dead at Trenton.

George Washington Stephens, president and founder of the Moline Flow company, is dead at Moline, Ill. He was eighty-three years of age.

The marriage of Prince Mirko of Montenegro to Mile, Natalie Constantinovitch, cousin of the king of Serbia, was celebrated Saturday at Cetinje, the capital of Montenegro.

Mrs. Annie Alexander Hector, the novelist, who wrote over the nom de plume of "Mrs. Alexander," died suddenly in London. She was born in Dublin in 1825.

Tuesday, July 15.

Another severe shock of earthquake is reported to have occurred at Salonica.

Sir Joseph Ignatius Little, chief justice and deputy governor of Newfoundland, is dead, aged sixty-seven.

The president has issued a commission to Director Merriam, under the new permanent census law, as director of the census.

Reports compiled by the Southwestern Grain Journal of Topeka show that the Kansas wheat crop will be less than 35,000,000 bushels.

Mrs. Elizabeth Daly, mother of well known actors and actresses of that name, is dead at Revere, Mass. Mrs. Daly was seventy-three years of age.

Rev. William Hall Brokaw, who during the Spanish-American war, had charge of the Young Men's Christian association at Camp Alger, in Virginia, is dead.

At Argentine, Kan., water from the Kaw river broke through an improvised earth dyke and flooded a large tract of land, rendering forty-five poor families homeless.

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EAST BOUND.		ARRIVE		LEAVE	
No. 12—Win City Express	10:15 a. m.				
No. 4—Win City Express	10:45 a. m.				
No. 59—Freight	11:15 a. m.				
No. 6—Fargo & L. Local	11:45 a. m.				
No. 22—From Brainerd	8:00 a. m.				
No. 8—Manitoba Express	12:15 p. m.				
WEST BOUND.		ARRIVE		LEAVE	
No. 11—Pacific Express	12:35 p. m.				
No. 7—Freight	1:05 p. m.				
No. 5—Fargo & L. Local	1:35 p. m.				
No. 21—To Brainerd	1:35 p. m.				
No. 7—Manitoba Express	12:35 p. m.				
L. F. & D. BRANCH		ARRIVE		LEAVE	
No. 101—Morris Accommo	9:55 a. m.				
No. 102—Morris Accommo	1:15 p. m.				

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