

SEVEN MEN ARE KILLED BY EXPLOSION IN MINE NO. 37.

Overcharge of Dynamite Is Put Off in Slope of Berwind-White Company's Mine Near Windber.

BLACK DAMP CAUSES DEATH

There Were Only Ten Men in the Mine at the Time and All But Three Are Killed—Were 500 Feet Away From Point of Blast.

Special to The Courier.

JOHNSTOWN, April 10.—Seven men were killed and three slightly injured as the result of an overcharged blast in Mine No. 37 of the Berwind-White Company near Windber. There were but 10 men in the mine at the time and they were fully 500 feet away from the point of the explosion. The shock of the blast, which was made with nearly 150 sticks of dynamite, stunned them for an instant and before they could recover the deadly fumes of black damp overcame seven of the party, who died a painless death. The other three, all foreigners, were quickly rescued and rushed to the Windber hospital. They will be discharged today. The dead:

Michael Gibson, aged 38, Mine 37.
William Gibson, aged 22, Mine 37.
Arthur Carter, aged 30, Main Level.
Steve Menick, aged 26, Mine 37.
Lui Gerba, aged 26, Mine 37.
Metro Kutepitan, aged 24, Mine 37.
Paul Myerank, aged 21, Mine 37.

The company planned opening a new air shaft in the mine and as yesterday was Good Friday there was a holiday. No men were at work but Superintendent D. A. Thomas got a party of 10 men together to blast through the rock and debris in order that the stuff might be hauled out by the men who would go on this morning.

It was 5:15 that the men completed their blast and were making their way out of the mine when the explosive was fired. The men were thought to have come a safe distance from the point of the explosion, but the rumble and roar of the giant powder sent volumes of smoke out of the slope opening before the men had reached the surface.

Superintendent Thomas immediately organized a rescue party and brought three foreigners to the surface before the mine had been entirely cleared. These were the three men who were but slightly injured. Then the work of getting the others out was resumed. By three o'clock this morning the last of the ill-fated seven was brought to the surface but all were dead.

The explosion did but little damage to the mine except at the point the blast was fired.

FEW HOURS TO LIVE.

Governor Geo. L. Lilley Is Near Death's Door.

HARTFORD, Conn., April 10.—(Special.)—Governor George L. Lilley is hovering between life and death at his home, and has but a few hours to live, according to a statement issued today.

The Governor has been in an unconscious condition since last evening and at the present time the entire family have gathered at the dying man's bedside.

PROHIBITS USE OF ALL BLACK POWDER

Order Issued by John Laing, Chief of the Department of Mines, West Virginia Announced.

Officials of the coal companies operating in the Dockers valley, West Virginia, have received an order from John Laing, Chief of the Department of Mines, prohibiting the use of black powder, the order taking effect this month. The chief also prohibits "sand" blasting, to which he attributes the recent explosion in the Echo mine in the southern part of the State.

In the order Chief Laing calls for the use of the so-called "safety" powder, but he does not recommend any particular powder. The safety powders which so far passed the Government test at the Pittsburg station are Mensurite, Meteor, Monoble, Carbonite No. 1, 2 and 3, Carbonite 2F, Coalite, 2 D, and Coalite 2 F.

Up until the time of the Monongah explosion black powder was generally used throughout the valley, although this practice has almost entirely ceased.

SUSPECTED OF MURDER AND HELD ON CHARGE

Somerset Authorities Think They Have Perpetrator of Stoyes-town Crime.

SOMERSET, April 10.—Officers at Lewistown today arrested Milton Myers and are holding him there awaiting the arrival of Somerset county authorities, who want the man in connection with the murder, last Wednesday of Frank F. Wingard of Stoyes-town, near here.