

1915 Layland No 3 Mine explosion NEWS4

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Though officials of the mine contended that the explosion was slight its force was sufficient to blow the stone arch from the entrance of a mine and cause the death of a negro two hundred feet away. The rescuers were slowly and systematically going about their work today. The train crew of rescue car No. 8 was at Layland assisting the mine and volunteer corps here. They reported the mine free from fire in all sections explored, but found many evidences that the flames had passed into nearly every cranny. Rescue work is now at a standstill and may not be resumed before late this afternoon. (With debris blocking the entrance of nearly all chambers in the mine and the air so rank that it actually endangers life it was found necessary to suspend all efforts to save life until wreckage had been removed and the air clarified. Hope was about abandoned by the watchers shortly after ten o'clock when one hundred coffins were received. More were on the way to Layland. This was taken, it was said, to indicate that the rescue parties have learned more than they have chosen to divulge. TAKE OUT 17 BODIES. Layland, W. Va., March 3 .- Seventeen men had been removed at eleven o'clock today from Layland mine No. 3 of the New River & Pocahontas Consolidated Coal & Coke Co., wrecked by an explosion yesterday. Nine were rescued alive and over 100 were still in the mine. Hope of taking out more alive has been abandoned, A carload of coffins is here and a temporary morgue has been erected.

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