

BURIED 20 MINERS ALIVE

**Lightning Struck Mine at Virginia,
Minn., Causing Disaster**

Virginia, Minn., June 27—Lightning struck wires connecting dynamite blasts all ready to be set off in the Silver open pit mine of the M. A. Hanna company, two miles west of Virginia, today caused the worst mine accident in the history of the Mesaba range. At least twenty men were buried alive. There were 450 men working in the mine and some were badly injured.

At least nine tons of dynamite went off, some in holes and some in boxes. The lightning struck the connecting wires running into the different drifts where shots were ready to be set off and in a twinkling the whole rim of the pit seemed to lift up and settle down in a great mass of rocks and earth, burying the men who were yet tinkering with the dynamite.

Virginia, Minn., June 27—At least twenty miners are known to be dead as the result of an explosion of dynamite, set off by a bolt of lightning during a heavy storm at the Silver mine of the M. A. Hanna company, today. Thousands of tons of ore fell in as a result of the explosion, burying the twenty men. It is believed others were caught. Several others were injured seriously. The mine is two and a half miles out of Virginia and is an open pit property.

1918 Silver Open Pit Mine Explosives Detonation

Clipped By:

usmra_rob

Sat, Apr 6, 2024