

PRICE FIVE CENTS

SIX MEN KILLED IN KEATING MINE

Radersburg Workings Scene of Disas- trous Explosion, Supposedly of Mag- azine on Two Hundred Level. Five of the Dead Miners Former Butte Men.

Special Dispatch to the Standard.

Townsend, Jan. 18.—One of the worst accidents that has ever occurred in the mining industry of Broadwater county was caused by an explosion in the Keating mine in the Radersburg mining district at 4:30 this afternoon, in which six miners lost their lives and two others were seriously injured. The explosion occurred on the 200-foot level and it is believed was the result of the lighting of seven boxes of powder. The county coroner, Thomas J. O'Connor, called up the office of the state mine inspector and informed him of the accident, after which Mr. O'Connor left for the scene of the catastrophe.

The following lost their lives:
ED RYAN, shift boss, married.
DAN RYAN, his brother, married.
DAN WHITE.
PERCY WAY.
LITTLE TUCKER.
HARRY ABBOTT, married.

All but Abbott were formerly of Butte.

Alexander Weistake and John Russell, two old experienced miners, were seriously injured. Weistake had both legs broken. Russell the right shoulder blade and bones of the arm crushed. It is thought both have received internal injuries. Their chance of recovery is slight.

Shaft Was Wrecked.

Pending an investigation of the explosion, the officials of the Keating Gold Mining company would make no statement save that the latest announcement that the men had been killed and injured and that no one below the 200-foot level of the mine was injured. All the bodies were recovered and the men working below the 200-foot level were taken out through an unused shaft.

The powder magazine in the mine, in which is stored enough powder for the use of one shift, was on the 200-foot level and the men were killed by the concussion. The force of the explosion was felt for miles around.

Four of the men killed and the two injured were working in the 200-foot level in the north drift at the entrance to the mine. With the exception of Ryan, whose fate and body were mutilated by a caven following the explosion, none of the bodies were disfigured.

First Fatal Accident There.

Ed Ryan leaves a wife and several brothers. He was about 25 years old and had been employed in the mine for three years. Dan Ryan leaves a wife and two young children, who reside in Radersburg. He was 23 years old and had been employed in the mine for nearly a year.

Little Tucker was 24 years old and single.

Percy Way and Dan White were single men and 30 years of age. Abbott was a married man and leaves a wife and four children who are residing in Radersburg. He was about 40 years old.

This is the first accident in the Keating mine in which any lives have been lost. It was one of the first quartz mines located in the Radersburg mining district, being located in the late '80s by Blacker and Keating. The present company bought the mine about three years ago and is known as the Keating Gold Mining company.

Jesse B. Roope of Butte is the official shareholder of the Keating Gold Mining company. The mine is two miles west of the old town of Radersburg, at one time the county seat of Jefferson county. It is said to be one of the biggest gold producers among the smaller mines of the state. M. D. Graves is superintendent.

MINERS KNOWN IN BUTTE

ROOPE HEARS BY PHONE

Ed Ryan, the shift boss, who is among the killed, was very well known in Butte, where he had been employed in the mines for many years. During the past week he was in Butte attending court as a witness for the North Butte company in the Kinard damage suit. The other victims of the explosion were also from Butte.

Jesse B. Roope, former president of the company, and now one of its directors and largest individual shareholders, received word of the explosion from Supt. M. D. Graves by telephone last evening. The superintendent and the injured were so badly hurt that they could not give an account of the accident or the cause. Every man in the vicinity of the explosion was either killed or injured severely. It is presumed, according to the information given to Mr. Roope, that the men were engaged in preparing for a blast and that the explosion was, by some accident, caused prematurely. It occurred at the face of the second level in the mine at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Roope started immediately for Radersburg by a Stetson, but learned that the mortuaries were impassable on account of the deep snow, and had to return to Butte. Last night he left by the Northern Pacific for Logan, expecting to catch an early train there this morning which will take him to Frost, the nearest railroad station from Radersburg.

The Keating Gold Mining company has all its employees insured in an accident and casualty company. Superintendent Graves and Julius H. Barnes of Duluth, treasurer of the company, were in Butte yesterday attending a meeting of the board of directors, and they left yesterday morning for the mine, arriving there about 10 minutes after the explosion occurred.

Efforts to locate the friends or relatives of the dead men in Butte last night were unavailing. It is apparent that they have not been in Butte for some time, as their names do not appear in the 1910 city directory, and with the exception of Ed Ryan and his brothers, they were unfamiliar to the officers of the miners' union. Abbott and Russell formerly worked in the Mountain View and Little Miss mines.

EXPLOSION IN COAL MINE

Special Dispatch to the Standard.

Miss City, Jan. 18.—John Law, a miner at the Ritchie coal mine, had his hip broken and probably will lose one eye from an accident this afternoon. Law's hip went out after he had lit a fuse, and in his haste to get away from the explosion, he became confused and returned to the chamber he was working in, just as the blast was discharged.

Six men killed in Keating mine

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