

TERRIBLE DISASTER

IN A WASHINGTON MINE BY
EXPLODING GAS.

Roslyn Mine the Scene of the
Disaster. Forty-Eight
Men Lose Their
Lives Under
Ground.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED NARROWLY ESCAPE

By Associated Press:

ROSLYN, WASH., May 11—A terrible gas explosion occurred in the slope of mine No. 2, of the Northern Pacific Coal Company, at this point, in which the loss of lives has exceeded in number that of any other disaster that has ever been chronicled in the Northwest.

The exact nature of the explosion, or the circumstances that led to it, will probably never be known, since it is believed that every miner who was at work in the slope at the time perished.

It is not definitely known how many men were in the vicinity of the disaster, but it is believed that between forty-five and fifty were on the three levels that were effected by the explosion.

A large relief force is at work and at this time two bodies have recovered. These men were working nearest to the opening and at some distance from the point where it is supposed the explosion occurred. Most of the men were 1,500 to 2,000 feet farther down the slope and in the immediate vicinity of the accident. There is no doubt, either, in the minds of the miners or the company officials, that every man was instantly killed.

The Roslyn mine is one of the largest in the State, supplying the Western division of the Northern Pacific and Union Pacific Roads with coal, and has a capacity of 2,000 tons daily.

The explosion occurred just as two gangs were shifting. The cause of it was not known.

Two boys in the tunnel escaped, but they are the only ones from either gang so far recovered.

Reports so far received indicate that the explosion has closed up the shaft, that the mine is on fire, and that it is impossible to recover the bodies.

LATER.

ROSLYN, May 11.—Fourteen bodies have been recovered from mine No. 2, and all identified. The work of recovery is very slow on account of the body of gas. It is now almost certain that every man in the mines was killed, and that the dead will reach forty-eight.