

January 24, 1902; Lost Creek No. 2 Mine, Oskaloosa, Iowa; 20 Killed

(From State inspector's report, 1903, pp. 47-30)

The explosion * * * occurred * * * about noon. * * * air had been well conducted * * * and * * * it had been the practice to slow down the fan just before * * * and until completion of the firing. The explosion started in room No. 10 on the 2d north * * *, which had been driven only 50 feet and so had no breakthroughs connecting with adjacent rooms.

* * * the miner had charged 2 holes ; 1 hole only was fired. The shot blew through into an old drill hole, * * * flaming gases were ejected into the room. * * * the dust stirred up in this room by the firing of the shot and ignited by the flaming gases increased the initial force of the explosion considerable. There were * * * 20 dead and 14 injured.