

14 MINERS BURIED AT WITTEVILLE

EXPLOSION AT NO. 6 MINE FROM
AN UNKNOWN CAUSE ENTOMBS
MANY WORKMEN.

Mine Was Opened Two Years Ago and
Has Never Had An Accident Before
Three Bodies Recovered—Gas
Abundant.

Associated Press.

Poteau, Jan. 25.—Fourteen lives were lost in an explosion at slope No. 6, of Witteville mine. The explosion is believed to have been caused by fire damp. Three bodies have been recovered. It is impossible to enter the mine because of gas. The dead are;

John Alexander.
Will Alexander.
Peter Dunsetto.
Angelo Reek.
J. H. Harp.
James Duffey.
Thomas Reek.
Joseph Batley.
F. Frankman.
James Thomas.
Angelo Spariat.
Frank Reek.
Joseph Turk.
A. H. Dunlap.

The explosion occurred yesterday afternoon while sixteen men were at work. The two men nearest the entrance escaped uninjured.

U. S. Mine Inspector Wm. Cameron, of this city is in receipt of a telegram from Poteau announcing an accident at No. 6 mine of the Poteau Coal & Mining Co., in which fourteen men are entombed in the fourth entry. The telegram adds that the cause of the explosion is unknown. No names of victims was given.

No. 6 mine is located at Witteville, about three miles from Poteau. The slope was opened in 1904 and was sunk 900 feet on a pitch of six and one-half degrees. The vein of coal being worked is four feet thick. There is an air shaft 34 feet deep and seven by eight feet in dimensions. Ventilation is by a 14 foot Coie fan driven by an electric motor.

M. B. McHugh is superintendent. The property is owned by eastern capitalists. The equipment is first-class. An electric locomotive is used in drawing the coal from the mine entrance to the tipples.