

POTEAU MINE DISASTER

SECOND WORST ACCIDENT IN HISTORY OF TERRITORY MINING.

14 KILLED IN AN EXPLOSION

Fire Damp and Inadequate Means of Escape the Causes of the Terrible Catastrophe.

Poteau, I. T., Jan. 25.—Fourteen lives were lost in an explosion at slope No. 4 of the Witteville mine. The explosion is believed to be due to fire-damp.

Three bodies have been recovered.

It is impossible to enter the mine because of the gas, which threatens the life of the rescuing crew. Recovery of the other bodies therefore is made slow.

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

The explosion occurred at 1:15 yesterday afternoon while sixteen men were at work. The two miners nearest to the entrance escaped uninjured.

In the number of dead in this mine disaster exceeds that of the Wilburton disaster in May of last year, when thirteen men were killed, and which had been the second worst disaster in Territory coal mining.