

SNOWSLIDE BURIES MINERS

Many Lives Lost in an Avalanche at
Silverton, Col.

COLORADO TOWNS ENGULFED

Twelve Miners Employed at the Shenandoah Mine Were Caught by a Snowslide and Swept to Death—Were Fleeing to Silverton to Escape Starvation.

Silverton, Col.—Twelve miners employed at the Shenandoah Mine were caught by a great snowslide and swept to their death. Their bodies have not yet been recovered. Assistance has been summoned from Silverton to help dig the victims from the snow. Twenty others are reported lost near Ouray.

The men killed were members of the force employed at the Shenandoah Mine, and were on the way to Silverton to escape starvation at the mine, the supply of provisions having run short. They left the mine, breaking a trail in the deep snow as they went along. At a particularly dangerous point on the trail, in the side of a steep mountain, one of the trail breakers stumbled. This started the snow sliding and the entire side of the mountain seemed to be moving.

The twelve men were engulfed almost immediately. One of nine men who escaped hurried on to Howardsville, three miles down the gulch, and telephoned to Silverton for help.

All the miners here took refuge in the tunnel. They reached Ouray, coming over the mountain on snowshoes. Communication had with several other mines shows that the men employed at those mines are safe.

Durango and the other towns in the San Juan region in Southwestern Colorado have been cut off from communication by train nearly a week, but the management of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad is making strenuous efforts to reopen its branch line in that part of the State, which is blockaded by heavy snow on the Cumbres Range. The main transcontinental lines have been kept open and through train service has not been much delayed during the storm. The heavy snowfall in the mountains insures an abundance of water for irrigation.