

CORONER PROBES DISASTER.

Cause of Amsterdam Mine Explosion Due to Drivers.

STEUBENVILLE, O., May 4.—(Special.) —A searching investigation of the mine disaster at Amsterdam, was begun today by Coroner Foster, aided by State Mine Inspector Harrison and Prosecuting Attorney Paisley. Ernest Ludwig, Austro-Hungarian consul, and Nicola Ceri, Italian consul, both of Cleveland, are at the inquest. The latter was made administrator for six Italian victims for whom damage suits will be begun. Fifteen lives were lost in the disaster on April 21.

Mine officials and inspectors today agreed that the explosion was due to drivers leaving two doors open, latching one. This changed the air courses, causing gas to accumulate in the south end of the mine where the explosion occurred. The mine inspectors testified that the company was complying with the law. The legislative committee was at Amsterdam today arranging a distribution of money appropriated.