

**AWFUL ACCIDENT ON MESABA****Over Twenty Men Killed in Open Pit at Norman Mine.**

Twenty-three men were instantly killed at the Norman mine near Virginia, on the Mesaba range late last Saturday afternoon.

The men were working in the open pit, when the earth from the side came down upon them burying nearly the entire gang of laborers. The cause of the accident is thought to have been due to the thawing of the earth on the sides of the pit during the recent warm weather.

"The accident occurred at 5:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon, just before the men of the day shift had finished for the day. The men were working on the south side of the entrance to the Norman mine. The earth gave way from the bottom and allowed that from above to slide upon the gang of men at work there. There was no warning whatever of what was about to occur.

"The men were working on repairs to the track. About thirty were in the gang. Those who had the forethought to run in a westerly direction were not injured. Practically all of the men who ran to the south to get on the second track were overtaken by the falling and sliding mass of ore and were covered up, some fully and others partially.

"The mining company inspects this bank frequently, but this mass, amounting to about 20,000 tons, came away without any warning or indication that any danger was impending. It would have been impossible to have foreseen the danger."

**Another Mesaba Accident.**

Captain Benny of the Elba mine at Gilbert, Minn., who with two miners was entombed in a shaft one hundred feet below the surface Saturday on account of a cave-in, was rescued alive Sunday morning. The two miners, however, must have met instant death, as their bodies were found terribly crushed. That Benny is still alive, after receiving the injuries which he did and undergoing the terrible ordeal for so many hours, is a marvel. However, his condition is reported as extremely critical.

William J. Stone, an Englishman, and George F. Bovich, an Austrian, were the two men who lost their lives. Stone was a single man, aged twenty-three, a native of Cornwall, Eng., and had been in America only about a year. Bovich was about thirty-five and leaves a wife and five children. The cause of the accident is believed to have been the loosening of the earth by the warm weather.