

MORE LOSE LIVES.

Two Rescuers Dead Following Colorado Mine Disaster.

Fifteen Are Missing as Result of an Explosion.

FIVE BODIES FOUND.

Nine Known Dead and Six Unaccounted For.

No Harrowing Scenes Around Pit Mouth as Is Usual.

Trinidad, Col., Feb. 10.—To the list of nine known dead and six missing in the Cokedale mine at the time of the explosion last night, this morning were added the names of E. A. Sutton, assistant superintendent of the mine and Robert Meek, a Colorado Fuel and Iron volunteer rescuer who lost their lives while trying to reach the missing men.

Sutton overestimated the amount of oxygen in his helmet and fell a victim to the black damp. He was dragged to within the air circuit by rescuers who themselves almost succumbed where his helmet was removed. He was alive when carried out but died while efforts were being made to resuscitate him with a pulmotor. Meek fell unconscious after volunteering ahead of the air circuit and died a few minutes after being carried out.

Five bodies were located this morning and will be brought out soon. Before the six missing can be reached it will be necessary to put up more brattices and enlarge the air circuit. A number of the rescuers have been overcome by the black damp.

The mine is being slowly cleared of the afterdamp but it may be several hours before all of the bodies can be taken out.

Fell Off High Trestle.

Dr. T. J. Forham, of Morris, was seriously injured near the mouth of the mine early today when he fell off a high trestle in the darkness. His shoulder was dislocated and it is feared he sustained internal injuries. Franklin Gulterman, president and general manager of the Carbon Coal and Coke company, has assumed personal charge. Superintendent F. P. Hagdiss had been in the mine almost continuously since reaching the scene soon after the explosion last night. Good order is maintained about the mouth of the mine and in the camp avoiding the harrowing scene so frequently enacted about mines following disaster. Coroner Lake and a force of deputies are in charge of the bodies of the recovered victims which have been placed in the blacksmith shop.

The force of the explosion, which was distinctly felt at Trinidad, seems to have been greatest in the main slope. Timbers were blown 200 feet from the mouth of the slope, but the explosion seems to have been attended by no serious falls of rock.

The explosion wrecked the fan house, but the fan was uninjured and is still working, although the air has been "short circuited" by the blowing out of brattices and doors.

Other Rescuers to Scene.

Trained rescue men are being rushed to Cokedale from all over the district. The government mine rescue car in charge of J. C. Roberts has been summoned and the rescue car of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company is on the way to the wrecked mine.

There are five exits from the Cokedale mine and none but the main slope was injured. It is hoped that some of the men in the mine may make their way from one of these exits. The two shot miners who were rescued were working near the surface in No. 5 entry and while both were overcome with gas, they were able to go to their homes without assistance.

There were no harrowing scenes around the pit mouth, such as have been common at other coal mine disasters. The miners on the surface are quiet and the majority are engaged in carrying supplies to the rescue party.

The cause of the explosion is unknown, but it seems most improbable that it could have been an explosion of dust. Precautions against the accumulation of dust were most strictly enforced at Cokedale. The mine was furnished with water pipes throughout and a force of men was employed constantly in sprinkling and removing dust.

The Cokedale mine has been operated for four years and the camp was known as the model coal camp of America. The property is owned by the American Smelting & Refining company and supplies the Chas. G. Smith smelters. It is said that more money has been expended in equipping the mine with safety appliances and modern methods than at any coal mine in America.