

MINE DISASTER.

Several Men Fatally Injured Taken From Hughestown Colliery.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., January 25.—An explosion of powder or gas at the Hughestown No. 10 colliery of the Pennsylvania Coal company this morning wrecked a section of the mine and killed or injured a number of workmen. At 11 o'clock six men had been brought out of the colliery by rescuing parties, four of them being fatally and the other two seriously burned. It is not known definitely how many others are in the mine, but the officials say they believe there is only one more man missing. Scores of men managed to escape by getting out of emergency openings as soon as the shock of the explosion was felt.

The injured at the Pittston hospital are: Michael Rowlason, a miner; Jacob Ziziqua, a laborer; Victor Botwich, a laborer, and Michael Kunis, a miner, who are reported as fatally injured; Curta Mulovitz and Andrew Speso, laborers, who are seriously hurt.

At 1 o'clock this afternoon after five more injured men were brought out of the mine the officials reported all out. They say the explosion was of powder. It is not known how it happened. Forty men who were shut in and had a narrow escape made their way out safely. Of the eleven injured six are fatally burned and five are seriously hurt.

1911 Hughestown Colliery explosion



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Sun, Feb 25, 2024

FIVE DEATHS IN TWO EXPLOSIONS

Known Toll of Colliery
and Laundry Disasters
in Pennsylvania.

**Four Men Brought from Hughes-
town Mine, Cannot Live.**

Woman's Body Hurl'd Thru
Window to Street at Phila-
delphia—Many Injured.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Jan. 25.—An explosion of powder or gas at the Hughestown No. 10 colliery of the Pennsylvania Coal Co., at Pittston today wrecked a section of the mine and killed or injured a number of workmen. Six men were brought out of the colliery by rescue parties, four of them being fatally and the two other seriously burned. It is not known definitely how many men were in the mine but the officials say they believe there is only one man missing. Scores of mine workers managed to escape by getting out of emergency openings as soon as the shock of the explosion was felt.

The injured at the Pittston hospital include Michael Rowison, miner; Jacob Ziziquadk, laborer; Victor Botwitch, laborer and Michael Kunis, miner, who are reported as fatally injured.

1911 Hughestown No 10 Colliery explosion



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THIRD EXPLOSION VICTIM IS BURIED

Andrew Spinotz, third victim of the powder explosion in No. 10 shaft, was buried this afternoon from Lydon & Murray's morgue. A few friends gathered at three o'clock and accompanied the remains to St. John's cemetery.

Michael Roache, of Searle street, Jacob Zigmund, of Smith street, Dupont, and Andrew Spinotz, of 39 Pine street, have thus far been the fated mine workers. All three were riding in the mine car in which the explosion of powder took place in No. 10 shaft of the Pennsylvania Coal Co. on Wednesday morning of last week. Roache succumbed on the evening of that day and Zigmund died Wednesday. Spinotz passed away Thursday morning. Four more of the men burned are still at Pittston Hospital. Their ultimate recovery is expected.

Jacob Zigmund's remains were interred this morning in the cemetery

of Sacred Heart Polish Catholic church, Dupont. His body was removed at 8:45 from his boarding place on Smith street, to the church, where a mass of requiem was celebrated at 9 o'clock.

Andrew Spinotz was terribly buned. His sufferings were more intense and prolonged than either Roache's or Zigmund's. The odor of the burned flesh was so offensive that the undertakers were obliged to employ a great quantity of chemicals and seal the body in an air-tight casket. With no service and but a few attendants, the body was this afternoon consigned to a resting place marked by only a plain stone.

STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE OF WYOMING COUNTY MAN

People around Auburn Four Corners are somewhat excited over the mystery surrounding the case of John Heidt, a painter, who has lived there for the past five years. He made his

1911 No 10 colliery victims



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Inquest Ordered

It is expected that an inquest will be held to inquire into the cause of the death of Michael Roache, victim of the powder explosion of one week ago in No. 10 shaft of the Pennsylvania Coal Co. Mine Inspector P. P. Williams has called for the investigation and Coroner Dodson will fix the date. The evidence will probably be taken at the office of Alderman Lewis Smith, who is a deputy coroner.

The presumed cause of the explosion is the dropping of a spark into a can of powder which was being carried, contrary to orders, mine officials assert, on a trip of cars, which a motor was pulling in the Marcy vein, and upon which about 30 mine workers were riding. Twelve men were burned by the explosion, seven so seriously that they were taken to the Pittston Hospital. Six of the men are slowly improving there. Michael Roache, the only English-speaking man burned, died on the day of the accident.

1911 Hughestown inquest



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Heid Inquest

Cornore Dodson conducted an inquest last night in the city hall to inquire into the cause of the explosion that resulted in the death of three men and eight others being seriously burned at No. 10 colliery of the Pennsylvania Coal Company on January 25 last. After hearing the testimony of several witnesses the jury returned a verdict exonerating the company from all blame, but recommended that in the future better facilities be provided for carrying the powder into the mines.

It was alleged, it will be recalled, that Michael Roache, a miner, entered the mines, on the above morning and had with him on a car, which was rdown by a motor, a can of powder and some oil. This, is was alleged was a direct violation of the company's rules. Roache, Jacob Zigmund and Andrew Spinzat were so badly injured by the explosion that they died. At last night's hearing several officials and attorneys were present.

Several witnesses were sworn and testified how they rode into the mine on that morning and told of the explosion. David Alexander was sworn and testified that two years ago he issued orders to the employees prohibiting them from carrying powder on cars. He said he would discharge any man he caught violating the order. He said that six weeks ago he warned Mr. Roache about carrying powder on cars and that on the morning of the explosion the latter violated the order. One witness swore he saw no powder with the deceased miner. Evidence was admitted, however, and proved that several miners carried the explosive on cars when the officials were not in sight.

1911 No 10 colliery inquest



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