

SLIDING EARTH BURIES MINERS

THIRTY MEN CAUGHT IN GREAT
PIT OF NORMAN MINE IN
MINNESOTA.

Men Were at Work When The Cave-
In Occurred Without Warning.—
Death List Will Not Ex-
ceed Fifteen.

Virginia, Minn., March 13.—All last night the search for the remaining unfound victims of Saturday's cave-in at the Norman mine was prosecuted by a small army of workers. It is thought by President W. J. Olcott, of the Oliver Iron Mining Co., that it may require two weeks to recover the last of the bodies. It is believed the death list will not exceed fifteen. Six were injured. President Olcott said the body or ore that fell crushing the men was considered the safest in the mine. The cause of the accident is a mystery.

Associated Press Story of Disaster.

Duluth, Minn., March 12.—Thirty men were caught in a great slide of earth at the Norman mine near Virginia at 6 o'clock last night. The pit is 125 feet deep and was more than half filled by the avalanche, which came without warning and extended 150 feet beyond where the victims were entombed. There are only four known survivors, all injured, three of them probably fatally injured.

Three bodies were recovered by rescuing parties. The others still remain beneath the debris. The dead are mostly Finlanders and Austrians, several of them leaving large families.

News of the disaster caused a rush of sobbing women and children to the pit. The miners who were taking up one of the two tracks in the pit in order to permit the steam shovel to work in another section of the mine, were for the most part bent over with bars and claws when the avalanche swept them into eternity.

Chief of Police Ellis Walsh of Virginia was notified of the accident by one of the mine engineers. He hastened to the mine, but found the Oliver Mining Company officials able to take care of the situation.

The scene was a strange one. The catastrophe was quite unlike anything in the history of iron mining on the range. The difference was that it came in the form of an avalanche. Behind and before the pit were thousands of tons of ore, rocks, earth, snow and ice and the rapid warming of the atmosphere released them upon miners.

Captain John Gill, the superintendent of the mine, declined to comment upon the accident. He busied himself directing the work of finding the bodies.

The Norman company employs about 1,000 men when running to capacity.

Just at this time, however, several hundred are employed working in night and day shifts.