

Four Score Coal Miners in West Virginia Are Entombed

Jed Mine, Near Welch, That State, Has Explosion Which Imprisons Working Force of 79 Men, Ten of Whom Are Rescued—Serious Diaster Is Feared—Rescue Cars from Two Stations at Once Sent to Scene.

WELCH, W. Va., March 26.—An explosion in the mine of the Jed Coal and Coke Co. at Jed, six miles south of here, today, imprisoned 79 men of whom up to noon ten had been taken out alive and one dead. Rescuing parties are making frantic efforts to reach the other miners and there are high hopes that with a few exceptions the remaining 68 may be recovered alive. The cause of the explosion is not yet known.

The Jed mine is 150 feet deep and is located at Jed, six miles south of Welch, in McDowell county. It is owned by the Jed Coal and Coke Co., of which William Leekie is general manager. The mine is on the Gary branch of the Norfolk and Western railroad.

Director J. A. Holmes of the bureau of mines at Washington immediately upon learning of the explosion in the Jed mine, took steps to have rescue cars despatched to Jed. Mine res-

cue car No. 7, located today at St. Paul, Va., on the Norfolk and Western railroad, not more than 150 miles away, was ordered to Jed. It carries four expert mine rescue men, headed by Foreman William Budke.

Car No. 1 at Pittsburg, in charge of Foreman D. D. Davis and Engineer H. Deke, was also ordered to proceed to the scene of the mine disaster. Both cars will pick up at various mine towns volunteers who will aid in the work of rescue.

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