

# TWELVE DEAD AND MANY ENTOMBED IN ACTON MINE BY TERRIFIC EXPLOSION

NINE BODIES TAKEN OUT AND FIVE RESCUED ALIVE—LITTLE HOPE FOR OTHERS ENTOMBED IN SHAFT WHICH IS BADLY WRECKED

ACTON, Ala. Nov. 18—Twelve miners are known to have been killed and at least a dozen others were still missing at a late hour tonight as the result of an explosion this afternoon in the Alabama Fuel and Iron Company's Mine No. 2 near here.

The exact number entombed however, is unknown as officials are unable to say how many men were at work in the mine when the explosion occurred. Estimates of miners employed at the scene of the disaster, place the total number who entered the mine today between twenty-five and forty. Systematic work has been in force since nightfall and those in charge are removing great masses of rock and coal jarred loose by the explosion. It will be penetrated before morning. Up to shortly before midnight, only five miners had been taken out alive. They expressed the belief that many of those still entombed had

been killed by the force of the explosion.

At that hour bodies of the following had been recovered:

**L. L. Paterson, E. Bright, John Langston, Henry Childers, Boss Driver Burns Kittrell; two negroes.** Charles Catman, white, and Ben Thomas and Jesse Paté, negroes.

The following are not accounted for and may be dead in the mine: Will McClellan, John Horton, James Horton, J. L. Perkins, K. L. Perkins, Cephus Polk, Charles Pokareno, Charles Maloney, John Papergine, Charles Colum, Grant Holsumbach.

All except Bright were married. Kittrell went into the mine only a few minutes before the explosion to do some cleaning. Three of the rescued are Greeks and it is thought a number of the dead in the mine are Greeks.

The cause of the explosion has not been learned. That many of those

entombed were killed by the force of the explosion is evident because two men working near the surface at the time were blown several feet from the mine entrance.

Officials of the mine, accompanying with mine rescuers and surgeons were hurried here from Birmingham and tonight every effort was being made to reach the entombed men. Mine No. 2 which is known as Acton Mine, is comparatively new and is one of the most productive in this district. It has a daily output of 300 tons. Officials of the company said that all equipment was first class.

The Acton Mine No. 2 is twenty-four miles south of Birmingham on the Acton branch of the Louisville and Nashville, six miles from Helena in Shelby County. The mine has a single track slope and used an eighteen foot fan with the split air system. J. G. Steele is superintendent of the Acton branch.

1913 Acton Mine explosion NEWS

Clipped By:  
usmra\_rob  
Jul 6, 2025