

COAL MINERS ENTOMBED

MINE EXPLOSION IN ALABAMA

BURIES THIRTY MEN.

Believed That Those Entombed Were Killed—Mine Equipment is Said to Have Been First Class.

Nine miners are known to have been killed, and at least a dozen others were still missing at a late hour Tuesday night, as the result of an explosion Tuesday afternoon in the Alabama Fuel and Iron Company's mine No. 2 near Acton, Ala. The usual quota of men employed in Mine No. 2 is 70, but the exact number at work when the explosion occurred is not certain. While officials would make no estimate of the number of men in the mine, miners at work near the scene of the disaster insisted that at least twenty men must have been cut off by the explosion. Some estimates ran as high as forty. It was said, however, that the number certainly would not exceed this figure, as Monday was pay day and many of the seventy men usually employed in the mine did not go to work Tuesday.

The cause of the explosion has not been learned. That many of those entombed were killed by its force seems certain, as two men working near the surface at the time were blown several feet from the mine entrance. Officials of the mine, accompanied by rescue workers and surgeons, were hurriedly sent from Birmingham, and every effort was 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.

Acton Mine No. 2 is 24 miles south of Birmingham on the Acton branch of the Louisville and Nashville railroad, six miles from Helena, in Shelby county. The mine has a single track slope and used an 18-foot fan with the split air system. J. G. Steele is superintendent of the Acton branch. The names of the dead brought to the surface included: L. L. Patterson, E. Bright, John Langston, Henry Childers, Boss Driver Burns Kittrell, two negroes. All except Bright were married. Kittrell went into the mine only five minutes before the explosion to do some cleaning. Three of the rescued are Greeks and a number of dead in the mine are thought to be Greeks.