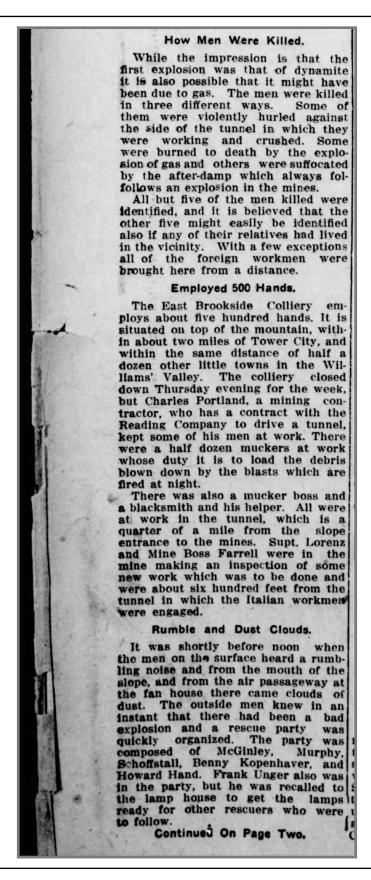


## 1913 East Brookside Mine Explosions NEWS3



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# AWFUL EXPLOSION IN A PENNSYLVANIA MINE

#### Continued From Page One.

The six rescuers were lowered in the slope, a depth of 1,200 feet down to the fifth lift, next to the bottom of the mine. It is judged that the second explosion occurred about twenty minutes after the first. The rescuers had time to walk about six hundred feet from the mouth of the slope, where they were found dead.

#### Fife Dead Together.

Five of the foreign workmen were found dead in one pile in the tunnel. A number of men were at work on the lift above the one where the tunnel was being driven and the concussion blew out the lights on their caps.

At the colliery were two oxygen helmets and others were quickly obtained from collieries in this vicinity and when the mine rescue car arrived there was plenty of them to carry on the rescue work.

Fortunately the mine was not set afire, but the rescuers were retarded for a while by the blocked passageways, due to the timbers being torn down and the roof and sides caving in. They made their way with the greatest difficulty. The first rescued were the members of the rescuing force who had gone to the relief of the victims of the first explosion. Doctors from all parts of the region were summoned and two of them descended into the mine to give relief at the bottom of the slope,

#### Searched Eight Hours.

After a futile search of about eight hours for the bodies of Fessler and Farley, some of the officials were still hopeful that they might have escaped by making their way through an old working. There was a rumor to this effect, but it was not given much credit.

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Superintendent Lorenz and foreman Farrell were together when the explosions occurred and Farrell was instantly killed, dropping dead at the side of Lorenze.

At nine o'clock rescuing parties came out after a futile search and gave it as their opinion that both Farley and Fessler were dead. They encountered a wall of rock which they believed to be about fifty feet long and they think that the two men were caught and buried underneath this. A report came to the surface that rapping had been heard inside, but the officials gave no credence to this, as they do not believe the men can be alive.

H. Zimmerman was the only man in the affected mine at the time who escaped with practically no injury. He was standing near the slope when the explosion occurred, and he was hurled a distance of ten feet by its force, but was not rendered unconscious.

#### Mine Mules Uninjured.

When the rescuing force came upon Supt. Lorenz, after a walk in a circuitous route of about a mile, they found him barely able to crawl. Asked how he was, he replied:

"Oh, I am pretty sore and tired but never mind me, go and help Jack Farrell. He needs your help. Leave me alone and take care of those who need help more than I do."

When the rescuing force explored the affected section of the mine, they found most of the mules alive, although they were in close proximity to the explosion. They did not appear to be injured in the least, beyond a singeing of the hair.

One theory of the explosion is that when the muckers were cleaning up the debris their shovels struck a piece of unexploded dynamite and set off the 175 pounds which the men had taken in with them.

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