

NO HOPE OF RECOVERY OF INTOMBED MINERS

STATE MINE INSPECTOR DE
CLARES IT A MYSTERY UN-
PARALLELED IN HISTORY
OF MINING.

McAlester, Okla., Sept. 16.—The thirteen men entombed in the Union Coal company's mine No. 1 at Adamson will remain buried under seven hundred feet of soil. Rescue parties who penetrated through from mine No. 4, adjoining, found all passages blocked with falling stone and pockets of gas and all hope for the recovery even of the bodies has been abandoned.

The last attempt to penetrate from the opening out of No. 4 was made Sunday. Practically all hope was abandoned then, but, still hoping against hope, the rescuers tried an entrance from the other side, but found the airshafts and entries blocked by the squeeze.

Cracks on the surface indicate that the disturbance has wrecked the entire mine and that the squeeze has even passed in into the solid coal bank of the tenth lift, where the men were waiting the upward trip when the crash came, Friday evening. That being the case, it is considered absolutely certain that the fall crushed the life from their bodies within a few minutes after the last trip was emptied of workmen.

The List of Dead.

Among the men killed by the fall were two Americans, three negroes, one German and seven Austrians. The list included the following: R. D. Parmenter and David Wynoria; Americans: John Copney, J. E. Stewart, and John Sexton, negroes; Alexander Schuster, German; William Cota, John Messar, Andrew Mathes, John Dewaric, Michael Rink, Victor Sabinings, and John Mysoris, Austrians. Parmenter, Stewart and Rink left wives and children. Berovic and Wynoria were aged miners who were living with married children. The rest were single, ranging in age from young manhood to middle age.

The real cause of the disaster will probably remain always a mystery, in the opinion of State Mine Inspector Ed Boyle, who has spent the last three days making an investigation, and this opinion is held also by Dr. J. J. Rutledge, district superintendent of the bureau of mines. Martin Clark, district mine inspector, as well as every practical miner who has been interviewed on the subject. Mr. Boyle said it was without parallel in the history of Oklahoma mining.

Usually, a mine squeeze is fore-
cast by indications of the impending
disaster, in plenty of time for pre-
cautionary steps to be taken or in
time for the men to be removed, but
in the Adamson case, the mine was
supposed to be in the best of condi-
tion, up to within a few minutes of
the fall.

There seems to be no indication
whatever, either among miners or
state mining officials, to place blame
upon the coal company or employees
at the mine.

Every effort was made to rescue
the men or to recover their bodies,
but the danger was found to be so
great, in attempting to enter the mine,
that the state mine inspector has ad-
vised that no further attempt be made.

1914 Union mine dead at Adamson OK



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Wed, Feb 8, 2023

IN THEIR WORK-PLACE TOMB.

Formal Funeral Services for Entombed Adamson Miners Held Sunday Morning at Mine.

Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, formal funeral services, commending the souls of the thirteen men entombed in the Union Coal company's mine No. 1 at Adamson to the God of all nations, were held on top of the mine, as all hope of recovering the bodies had been abandoned.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. James Fesperman, pastor of the Methodist church, assisted by Rev. A. E. Faust of the Presbyterian church and Rev. J. J. Downe of the Baptist church, under the auspices of local union No. 1306, United Mine Workers of America. The miners marched to the top of the mine in a body where Rev. Fesperman read the simple burial ritual of the union. A prayer followed, then benediction and the congregation sang "Nearer My God to Thee."

The Dead:

R. D. Parmenter, American; married; left a wife and four children.

David Edwards, American; single. Alexander Schuster, German family in father land.

Michael Rink, Austrian; family in Europe.

John Bersavic, Austrian; lived with married children.

John Wynoris, Austrian; lived with married son.

William Carp, Austrian; single.

John Messar, Austrian; single.

Andrew Mathes, Austrian; single.

Victor Stabinges, Austrian; single.

J. E. Stewart, Negro; married.

John Copney, Negro; single.

John Sexton, Negro; single.

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