

FIVE MINERS KILLED IN CAGE

Counterbalance at West Frankfort Mine Falls, Striking Rising Cage

Five coal miners were instantly killed and six others seriously injured at the Orient mine near West Frankfort, Ill., Monday afternoon when a two-ton counter balance slipped from the cables and fell through the roof of the cage in which the miners were being hoisted to the surface. The cage was about three hundred feet from the bottom of the mine when the counter balance fell. The counter balance travels downward as the car goes upward, helping to equalize the weight. The men in the cage had no warning of the accident until the metal crashed into the cage.

The men who were killed were: James Boyle, Andrew Polo, John Petcas, Joe Hrybar and Alfred Kurz. With the exception of Boyle, all of the dead and injured are foreigners. The injured are expected to survive.

The Orient mine is one of the largest and most modern in Illinois.

1917 Five miners killed at Orient Mine



Clipped By:

usmra_rob

Sun, Mar 20, 2022