

COAL FATAL

1917 0000

Report of a Haulage Accident September 17, 1917; Orient Mine;
Orient, Illinois; 5 Killed
(From the "State Coal Report," 1954, Illinois Department of Mines
and Minerals)

September 17, 1917, five men were killed in the Orient mine. An incompletely caged loaded car at the main shaft had caused a wreck, and men were being hoisted on the escapement shaft cage. This was a single cage with counterbalance in guides that operated like a separate cage. This counterbalance came out of its guides and collided with the cage at the halfway location in the shaft, causing the cage to fall to the shaft bottom, a distance of about 250 feet.

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