

THREE KILLED IN EXPLOSION IN CAPITAL

Two Others Seriously Injured
and Three Missing in Wash-
ington Blast.

Forty-Six Men Working in Mine
at Time of Explosion; Many
Escape Unharm.

(By The Associated Press)
TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 18.—Three men are dead, two injured and three unaccounted for in an explosion at the Pacific coast coal company's mine at Burnett, Wash., 29 miles southeast of here, according to a report received here at midnight from N. D. Moore, of Seattle, president of the company.

The dead are:—
Charles Kirby, B. H. Washburn, Elmer Crippen.

The injured:—
Harry Humecke, critical; R. Lazarus, slightly.

Missing:—
Elmer Landis, assistant foreman, E. H. Ridley, E. J. Rush.

An official statement issued at midnight by Mr. Moore said:—

"An explosion as yet of an unknown origin, occurred at 6 p. m., in number four south gangway, of the Burnett mine. At work in the various parts of the mine at the time were 46 men. Of these all but eight were unhurt, and soon brought to the surface.

"Rescue crews of the Burnett mine at once went to the rescue and these were reinforced by crews from the bureau of mines and of the Pacific Coast Coal Company's other mines at Black Diamond, Newcastle and Carbondale.

"Chief mine inspector of Washington, William R. Reese, and Deputy Inspector John Parker, soon reached the scene, and they, with D. C. Bottling, manager of the company's mines, joined forces in the rescue work.

"One man, Charles Kirby, was brought to the surface dead, apparently having been instantly killed. Another man, Harry Humecke was brought up in a critical condition from burns and it was thought that he would live. A third man R. Lazarus was brought to the surface only slightly injured. The next two men to be found dead were: B. H. Washburn and Elmer Crippen."

Burnett is on the Northern Pacific, in Pierce county. The mine employs about 300 men, mostly working on the day shift.

1924 Burnett Mine explosion NEWS1

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