

CAUSE OF YUKON MINE DISASTER NOT DETERMINED

Bodies of 24 Victims Lay in Improvised Morgue.

Yukon, W. Va., March 29 (By the Associated Press).—Mourning for twenty-four miners whose bodies lay in an improvised morgue, and a scientific study into the causes of the explosion which caused their death yesterday, engrossed the attention of Yukon today.

Leaden skies and the swiftly rushing water of Dry Fork, swollen by last night's heavy rain, added a sadder touch to the mournful task of an undertaker summoned from Welch to prepare the bodies for the express car full of coffins that was rushed here last night.

Theories as to the possible cause of the explosion were tentatively advanced, but judgment was withheld until after an inspection of the mine by Chief R. M. Lambie of the state department of mines, and officials of the Yukon-Pocahontas Coal Co., in whose No. 3 mine the explosion occurred.

One hundred and forty men had just gone into the passage connecting No. 1 and No. 2 mines and none had reached their working places at the time of the fatal blast. Of these only thirty were in the No. 2 mine, and six of that number were near enough the drift mouth that they could make their way back to safety. The 110 in the No. 1 mine were ordered out by Superintendent T. J. Dawson by means of the mine telephone and got to open air before the deadly after-damp spread through the connecting passage.