

## **December 14, 1925; Wilkeson Mine, Tacoma, Wash.; 5 Killed**

*(From Bureau of Mines report, by J. G. Schoning)*

About 9:30 a.m. a section foreman and a chute starter attempted to start a chute that was blocked by niggerheads or sulfur balls by placing a stick of 60-percent gelatin dynamite on a large chunk and firing it with fuse. The dynamite was covered with clay in the usual practice. The report of the shot was followed by a blast of wind and fire.

These two men were burned; and the chute starter, in trying to run, fell down a chute and suffocated. The section foreman, unconscious, was found by rescuers and revived. Five others were also found overcome and revived by artificial respiration. Four others were killed by afterdamp.

Although the mine was damp in most places, dry dust was stirred up and ignited; no gas was detected. No damage was done to the mine.