

February 24, 1928; Mama No. 3 Mine, Jenny Lind, Ark.; 13 Killed

(From Bureau of Mines report, by K. L. Marshall and P. E. Keeyan)

About February 19 a connection had been made between Mama Coal Co. No. 3 mine and the adjoining No. 18 mine of the Consolidated Sales Co. A wooden stopping with a slide regulator had been put in to seal off the connection. The No. 3 mine had been idle and the fan not running from February 21 to the morning of February 24. At 8:30 a. m. gas was ignited at this regulator by the open light of a man from the No. 18 mine who had been sent to change the opening. His body was found under the debris of the stopping.

The explosion was propagated a short distance into the No. 18 mine by dust but was stopped by dampness and expansion. The same conditions arrested propagation in the No. 3 mine, where 12 men were killed and 115 escaped. In No. 18 mine 14 men came out unaided. Little damage was done, and the bodies were soon recovered. Ventilation in both mines was inadequate; open lights were used; no rock dust was applied; and holes were shot on the solid with black powder. Fireboss examinations were made.