

EXPLOSION AT SHERMAN MINE INVESTIGATED

Four Men Were Killed and
Two Injured When Blast
Went Off.

LOCATED WITHIN THE
LIMITS OF POTTSVILLE

One Hundred Miners Escaped
Safely From the Skidmore
Vein Section.

Investigations were under way today to determine the cause of the explosion which cost four deaths and injured two other miners in the Sherman Coal Company operation at Pottsville, at the end of the day shift yesterday afternoon.

The investigations were being conducted by the representatives of the State Bureau of Mines, the coroner of Schuylkill county, and the mining company officials, while workmen were busily clearing away the debris in the main gangway of the Skidmore vein, 1,300 feet underground, where the blast occurred.

Three bodies were recovered shortly after the explosion and the fourth was found buried underneath the mass of rock and coal which was blasted into the gangway just as the shifts were changing.

The dead were: Joseph Leisinger, 34, Tremont; Chester Coveny, 34, Pottsville; Mathew Solleski, 28, Minersville, and Joseph Weso, Pottsville. Coveny was the only unmarried man of the four.

The injured were: Leo Solleski, of Minersville, son of one of the victims, who suffered from lacerations and shock, and Henry Tobias, Tremont, who received fractures of the right leg and shoulder and lacerations. Both men will recover.

One hundred miners were in the Skidmore section when the blast rocked the subterranean chambers. All escaped to the surface except those in the immediate vicinity of the explosion. Black damp quickly spread through the workings and held back the work of the rescue crews until ventilation was renewed.

The Sherman colliery is within the city limits of Pottsville, and many of its gangways run directly underneath the streets of the city. The operation is an independent concern, controlled by metropolitan capitalists.

1930 Sherman Colliery explosion kills four



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