

7 Die, 10 Hurt In Mine Blast Near Pottsville

Only Two Uninjured As Gas Explodes In St. Clair Slope

POTTSVILLE, Pa., April 27 (AP). —Seven men died today and 10 were seriously burned in the nation's second major mine disaster in less than a week.

An explosion shook the St. Clair Coal Company's anthracite workings only a few days after nearly half a hundred died in a blast in a bituminous mine at Grundy, Pa.

The explosion, attributed to gas, occurred in a slope four miles from Pottsville an hour after 600 men had begun the day's work.

Nineteen were working on the level, 500 feet or more underground, where the blast let go. Two were uninjured.

The day that began normally for families throughout the great mining regions ended in a night of mourning. Funeral crepe hung from the doors of six homes. One wreath on a single home signalled the ending of two lives—the Terris brothers, Michael and John, who came over from Port Carbon each day.

OTHERS WHO DIED

The other dead—all lifeless when rescuers toiled through "black damp" to reach the scene—were:

Frank Montgomery, 30; Paul Sikra, 40; Wasil Holovak, 45; Luke Chuckran, 40, and Richard Barnes, 43.

Seventeen children, ranging from a baby less than a week old to those in their 'teens, were left fatherless and four wives became widows.

Holovak was the father of 13 children.