

Runaway Mine Cars Crash, Killing Three, Injuring Ten

By the Associated Press.

ROCK SPRINGS, Wyo., Dec. 16.—Seven runaway coal mine cars, carrying 100 men, smashed through a trestle yesterday, killing three and seriously injuring 10.

As the cars rolled out of the mine's mouth many of the men realized they were traveling swifter than usual. Twenty-five scrambled out of the cars. Others jumped as the cars roared forward.

But 15 were carried to the end of the trestle, where the cars rammed into a stop lock. The trestle collapsed and the occupants toppled 40 feet to the ground.

Five cars fell, crushing to death C. D. Masters and Mike Karamonas, both of Rock Springs. William Miteff, Rock Springs, died an hour later.

Supt. Louis La Salle of the Colony Coal Corp. said the cause had not been determined.

85 Miners Leap As Cars Break'

ROCK SPRINGS, Wyo., Dec. 16.
—(P)— Eighty-five miners who leaped to safety saw a runaway string of coal cars collapse a trestle at the Peacock mine and crush to death three of their fellow workers.

Ten others, seriously injured in the 40-foot drop from the trestle, were under treatment in the Rock Springs hospital.

The string of seven cars, bringing 100 men of the day shift to the surface yesterday afternoon, picked up speed as it neared the mine entrance. Most of the miners, realizing that something was amiss, piled off the cars before they roared to the end of the trestle and rammmed a stop lock.

But 15 men remained aboard five of the cars as the trestle collapsed. Crushed to death were C. D. Masters and Mike Karamonas. William Miteff died an hour later in the hospital. All were of Rock Springs.

A steel rail snagged two of the cars and held them on the remnant of the shattered trestle. Officials of the mine, a property of the Colony Coal Corp., said that several other men probably would have been killed had the remaining cars fallen.

The injured were listed as John Demshar, Joe Survic, George Tones, George Sprunot, K. McCormick, August Picinilo, John Asikainen, Nick Megas, Joe Naglic and Anthony Pavloff.

Federal and state coal mine inspectors began an investigation to determine the cause of the accident.