

AWAIT MINE BLAST NEWS



—Associated Press Wirephoto.

Mrs. Merle Blanton smiles in an effort to cheer her small children, Brenda Joyce, 2 years old, and Roger, 1, while they wait for word from the depths of the Three Point Coal Mine near Harlan, Ky., where an explosion killed 12 miners. Later she learned her husband was one of the dead. Six other miners barricaded themselves in a tunnel to keep out black damp and were rescued after 12 hours.

RESCUERS

Remove 12 Dead

From Harlan Shaft— Free Six Uninjured.

Survivors Retreat Mile Into Mine To Escape Death From Black Damp.

Harlan, Ky., September 17—(AP)—Rescue squads early today freed six miners and recovered the bodies of 12 others deep in the explosion-wrecked pits of the Three Point Coal Company's mine, a dozen miles south of here in the Southeastern Kentucky mountains.

The 12 bodies were found in a blasted tunnel a mile from the mouth of the mine. Three of the victims apparently had been killed by the explosion—believed to have been caused by gas but still unofficially explained pending an investigation. The other nine victims were huddled together, their lives snuffed out by the deadly black damp.

SAVE THEIR LIVES.

The six survivors saved their lives by going back into the mine still another mile. They were brought out in good physical condition, smiling broadly but with moist eyes, indicating their gratitude for the rescuers who worked 12 hours without stopping to free them.

The survivors were Harvey Lasley, Warren Pruitt, Shelly Farley and Paul Helton, all of Three Point, and Charles Baily and Homer Osborne, both of Cawood.

The dead were Carson Ramsey, E. M. Morgan, mine foreman; Albert Bonza, Fred Irvin, George Helton and Lawrence Jordan, all of Three Point; Leander Cole, Dave Osborne, Ed Osborne, Frank McKennie and Marion Osborne, all of Cawood, and Merle Blanton of Moltus, Ky.

RESCUERS OVERCOME.

The rescue work was directed by James Bryson, safety director for the Harlan County Coal Operators' Association and a Major with a Scottish regiment in World War I. Six of the rescuers were overcome with fumes and had to be given medical attention but all recovered.

It was the second most costly mine accident in the history of Harlan County which has 40 coal mines employing thousands of men. In December, 1932, not more than 1,000 feet from the Three Point Mine, an explosion took 23 lives at the Zero Mine of the Harlan Fuel Company.

JURISDICTION

Of Board Challenged

By Municipally Owned Utilities
After Commission Orders
Revision Of Rates.

Frankfort, Ky., September 17—(AP)—The Frankfort Electric and Water Plant Board declared today that, because the power and water systems it operates here are municipally owned, the State Public Service Commission lacks jurisdiction over rates charged consumers.

The commission recently ordered a rate adjustment or a hearing by September 20 when more than 70 suburban consumers complained in a petition that rates established by the board for rural consumers were higher than rates set for city consumers.

The board today answered the petition, citing its jurisdictional contention and denying the protestors' charge that the suburban rates are discriminatory.

T. B. McGregor, commission mem-

CANDIDACY

Questioned By Thobe.

Fitzpatrick Contemplating Race
For Mayor After Nomination
To Legislature, He Says.

Frankfort, Ky., September 17—(AP)—A person can run for two offices in a primary and be nominated for both posts but if elected he can fill but one of them, Assistant Attorney General Guy H. Herdman held today.

John J. Thobe, Covington, unsuccessful candidate for Democratic nomination for Governor in the August 7 primary, raised the question. He asked whether Thomas Fitzpatrick, nominated in the primary for the State Legislature, can run for nomination as Mayor of Covington in a nonpartisan municipal primary October 16. Thobe added that Fitzpatrick is contemplating running for the mayoralty nomination.

It is not a matter of attempting

1943 Three Point Mine explosion NEWS

Clipped By:
usmra rob
Nov 19, 2025