

Telegraph

Amsterdam Mine

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ROBERT C. CLOWRY, President and General Manager.

RECEIVED at No. 249 5th Ave., near Wood St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

1 D.NE.IZ. 16 Paid 2 extra, Deliver immediately

61526

Columbus Ohio April 21, 1910

Jas W Paul,

United States Rescue Station

Pittsburgh Pa

Send helmet men to amsterdam Ohio at once explosion Y & O mine answer.

Geo Harrison.

116 am april 22.

Handwritten signature and date:
J. Harrison
6:25 AM

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ROBERT C. CLOWRY, President and General Manager.

Receiver's No.	Time Filed	Check
	5 20 P	26 <i>Amigo Gorn Retu</i>

SEND the following message subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to.

Allice, O April 23 1900

To *Holmes Geological Survey*
Washington, D.C.

*Alli recovered Amsterdam mine, fifteen
dead, two resuscitated by new
apparatus after being in mine
twenty six hours after explosion
Paul*

READ THE NOTICE AND AGREEMENT ON BACK.



Newspaper Accounts

Seven Men Are Saved From Mine

Explosion Wrecks Interior
and Kills Eighteen at
Amsterdam, Ohio.

CAUSE IS NOT KNOWN

Women and Children Fran-
tically Seek Dead and
Missing Ones.

[Special Telegram to The Dispatch.]

STEUBENVILLE, Ohio, April 22.—Seven men, bruised and burned, were rescued from the Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal Company's mine at Amsterdam today, and their escape from death is regarded as miraculous. The rescued are: Edwin O. Jones, night superintendent; Roy Scott, Lewis Smith, Joe Sengre, Lee Zenee, Joe Zinesk and John Golden, all miners.

Six dead have been brought to the surface and 12 bodies remain hidden in the bowels of the earth, as the result of a tremendous explosion in the mine late last night. The interior of the mine is completely wrecked and all ventilation is shut off.

The cause has not been determined by the State Mine Inspectors and mining experts who are conducting the search for the bodies of victims who have not yet been located.

THE DEAD.

"Joe" Zempeddro, aged 23 years, single; Robert McMasters, aged 25 years, single; Herbert Hays, aged 40 years, married; Paul Rosko, aged 25 years, single; "Andy" Rosko, aged 23 years, single; "Joe" Jacob, aged 30 years, married; Charles Howarth, aged 50 years, married; John Smith, aged 50 years, married; James Lockhart, aged 47 years, married; "Mike" Farcella, Mingo Zangnell, Lonie Colaker, "Joe" Daring, John Daring, Herman Benedict, John Benedict, Reve Locko, Lovie Jia Zonnellie.

Was Recently Inspected.

The mine had been inspected but two days before the explosion by Deputy Inspector Thomas Morrison. From the condition of the interior it is said the explosion, in point of force, was the greatest ever recorded in Ohio.

The mine is of the shaft variety and a force of 175 miners is employed.

About 9:45 o'clock last night the earth within a radius of several miles was rocked with a terrific explosion. A train on the Lake Erie, Alliance & Wheeling Railroad was passing the mine and every window in the train was shattered. The trainmen stopped the train and learning where the explosion occurred fled from their train, as a car of dynamite was attached to the rear of it.

The cause of the explosion has not been determined. The mine inspectors say it might have been caused by a miner striking a pocket of gas or it might have been caused by floating gas coming in contact with a naked light carried by one of the miners. Several of the rooms, boarded up and marked dangerous, were filled with gas and a miner may have ven-

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The explosion evidently occurred in the south entry, as the roof of the mine in that part is down, doors are blown out and the air shaft wrecked. All of the dead miners were found in the south entry, while those rescued came from the north.

With the explosion the cages in the shaft, which is 60 feet deep, were blown out, the tippie was wrecked and all mode of entering barred. The fans in the pump house were damaged and put out of commission.

Work of Rescue Begins.

As soon as the explosion was heard practically every one in the village flocked to the mouth of the shaft and many of the miners volunteered to go down into the hole to rescue their companions. The work of rescue was accompanied with much danger on account of the mine being filled with afterdamp.

As soon as a bucket could be rigged up in the shaft forces of rescuers were sent down, but they remained only a few minutes. However, they succeeded in rescuing the men from the north entry as the air in that part was comparatively free from the noxious fumes.

After working all night the rescuing crews succeeded in locating six bodies. These were taken to the bottom of the shaft and lifted to the surface. They

Had he gotten the a few hours sooner it is probable that nearly all the 15 men that were killed would have been rescued, as they all died of suffocation. Immediately after arriving the Pittsburg men went into the mines and began the search for bodies. All were found to be dead from suffocation.

The portion of the mine where the three rescued men were found was reached at 11:30 Friday night, about 26 hours after the explosion. The three men had been passed hours before by a rescuing party but they were thought to have been dead and the party went on. The examination was too hasty.

When Mr. Paul reached the miners he noticed that their bodies were warm and summoning several miners he had the three bodies placed on stretchers and started for the shaft. Before reaching the shaft Mr. Paul noticed that immediate attention would have to be given the men if they were saved and they worked with them until the surface was reached. It is probable that all three men would have died in a short time had it not been for the presence of Mr. Paul to treat them.

The twelve dead were buried at Amsterdam Sunday and the ceremonies were very impressive, while the other three were taken to Dillonville, Ohio, for burial. They were all buried in one grave.

were taken hurriedly to a temporary morgue.

After removing the six bodies the miners turned their attention to bratticing off the mine to guide fresh air and efforts were made to have the fans repaired. During the afternoon William G. Muse of the Youghiogeny and Ohio Coal Company arrived from Pennsylvania, accompanied by six rescuers equipped with oxygen helmets. These men thoroughly explored the mine, but failed to find any more bodies. They said there were many "falls" and the missing miners are undoubtedly under them.

Superintendent's Miraculous Escape.

E. O. Jones, the night superintendent, was in the main entry near the air shaft when the explosion came. He was blown over several cars and the gas and flames passed over him, striking the air shaft and seeking an outlet through it. The air shaft was badly wrecked and the stack above it was toppled over. Doors were knocked down and pit posts hurled in all directions. Jones when found was badly burned and bruised all over the body. All of the other men who were rescued were burned, but not seriously.

When Jones was blown over the cars he was stunned. When he regained consciousness some time later he remembered that the only hope of escaping alive was to keep his mouth to the ground to breathe whatever fresh air was in the mine.

The Rosko brothers were found locked in each other's arms. This gives the rescuers the belief that the men were not killed instantly but that they were suffocated by the afterdamp.

Families Look for Dead Ones.

Families of the miners, who flocked to the mouth of the shaft last night, waited there all through the day and until after the first bodies had been carried out. With the approach of day people from all around came in buggies and wagons and by nightfall about 5,000 people were clustered about the shaft. It was with difficulty that they were kept back to permit the rescuers to enter.

Later in the day the fans were put in operation and fresh air forced into the mine. The rescuers were divided into three groups of a dozen men each. They remained in the mine only two hours at a time.

Coroner I. C. Foster of Jefferson County arrived on the scene early this morning. He could not state the cause of the trouble, but said the disaster would be thoroughly investigated. If all the bodies can be recovered by noon tomorrow it is planned to have one big funeral for the victims on Sunday.

State Mine Inspector Harrison and F. M. Osborne of Cleveland, president of the company, arrived this afternoon and directed the work of rescue. Neither would venture to state the cause of the explosion. Mr. Osborne said the mine would be cleared as quickly as possible and work resumed as soon as the State inspectors said the mine was safe to be operated again.

of the Methodist Episcopal church at East Springfield, O.

Fraternal Orders Take Part.

John Kerr, representing the United Mine Workers of America, delivered an address and read the ritual, while similar duties were performed by Pro Thomas Bell for the Odd Fellows and Henry Hossman for the Red Men. During

the ceremony the Daughters of Pocahontas sang several funeral songs.

The funeral cortege started from the town hall at 1 o'clock. Each of the 12 caskets was accompanied by an escort of 16 men. The services were not concluded until 6:30 o'clock this evening.

Since the dead have been laid to rest the entire community is discussing the catastrophe that brought sadness to many homes in Amsterdam. On all sides the heroic labors of the men who formed the rescuing parties and James W. Paul of Pittsburgh, Pa., the United States government mining engineer in charge of the federal mine station in that city, are being praised.

It was due to the work of Mr. Paul and his assistant, J. R. Cavanaugh, that three men—Louis Benedict, Mello Porcella and Paul Tobico—owe their lives to-night. Twenty-six hours after the explosion when the three men were slowly dying from suffocation, it was Mr. Paul who found them and brought them to life and home. The recovery of these men from the jaws of death reads like a story in fiction. Their miraculous escape and the labors of Mr. Paul are expected to have a widespread effect for greater safety in coal mining.

Heroic Work of Rescue.

The explosion occurred at 9:30 o'clock Thursday night. Owing to the resultant confusion the mine rescuing station of the government, located at Pittsburg, was not notified of the disaster until five or six hours later. Then the word was sent to Mr. Paul from the Ohio state department of mines at Columbus, O. Mr. Paul and his assistant at once gathered together the necessary apparatus from the station at Pittsburg and proceeded here. When they reached the scene, however, the accident was then 17 hours old. Mr. Paul had with him 800 pounds of apparatus, including oxygen helmets, tanks and blankets.

Within a few moments after Mr. Paul's arrival he had completed all arrangements to revive any of the miners who might be found alive. Going into the

EXPLOSION IN MINE BURIES EIGHTEEN MEN

Stuebenville, O., April 22.—As the result of an explosion of coal dust at the Youghiogheny & Ohio coal mine at Amsterdam, six men were killed and twelve were injured. Some of the injured may die.

The explosion of gas took place at 9:30 on Thursday night. Twenty-two men were in the mine working at the night shift. Of these, six are known to be dead and all others may be dead. The known dead are:

JOE SANPEDRO, an Italian, single, aged 22 years.

JOHN SMITH, SR., aged 50 years.

JAMES M'MASTERS, aged 34 years, son-in-law of Smith.

CHARLES HOWAITH, aged 45 years, married.

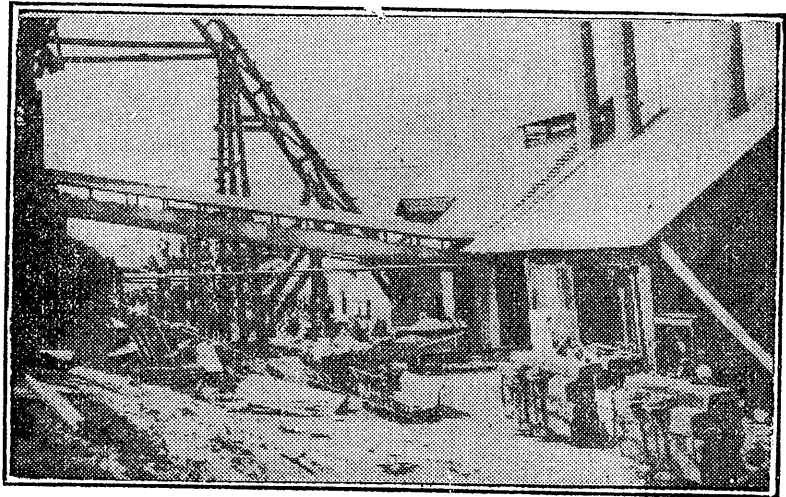
Bodies of the other men can be seen, but the rescue party has not been able to recover but one body, that of Joe San Pedro.

Four escaped from the mine by the air shaft; Edward Jones, the mine boss; John Smith, Jr., and two Italians.

The explosion took place in the south side of the mine and those in the other part, hearing the trouble, have evidently wandered around and gotten lost and probably are dead from black damp.

The explosion blew off the top of the tippie above the shaft. The windows in the caboose of a passing freight train were blown out. The fan is broken and can only be operated slowly. Rescue work is delayed till oxygen caps arrive.

SHAFT HOUSE OF AMSTERDAM, O., MINE



Three Are Saved From Ohio Mine

Miners Given Up for Dead
Are Brought to Surface at
Amsterdam, Ohio.

[Special Telegram to The Dispatch.]

STEUBENVILLE, Ohio, April 23.—Lying flat on their faces with their mouths close to the ground breathing in the occasional gusts of pure air, three miners, after being entombed in the Youghiogheny Coal Company's mine at Amsterdam, Ohio, for 27 hours, were brought to the surface this morning. They were barely living and unconscious. They will survive.

The rescued are: Louis Benedict, Melio Porcella and Paul Tobacco. All three are foreigners.

The three miners were found in the south entry of the mine where the explosion occurred and where all of the men who were killed were at work at the time of the disaster. The death list is now reduced to 15.

All of the bodies have been recovered and are in the town hall of Amsterdam, which has been converted temporarily into a morgue. The bodies are covered and only relatives and those who are thought to be able to make identifications are allowed to see them.

Funerals of the victims will be held tomorrow and Monday.

Coroner Foster will make a formal inquiry into the cause of the disaster next week when he and the State mine inspectors will take testimony in the case at the same time.

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Lamb and maid, having spent the winter in Washington, D. C., arrived in the city last night for a short visit prior to their departure for Europe. Miss Carolyn O'Brien, a niece of Mr. and Mrs. Lamb, who was their guest in Washington, accompanied them home.

Heroic Work of Former Mine Chief Paul Highly Lau *Charleston Mail* *W. Va.* *4/27/10*

With flaring headlines the Pittsburg Gazette-Times of Monday tells of the heroic work of James W. Paul, former chief of the department of mines of this State, who with his assistant, J. R. Cavanaugh, played the leading part in the rescue work after the explosion of the Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal company mines in the little town of Amsterdam, Ohio, last Thursday night.

Since the dead have been laid to rest the entire community is discussing the catastrophe that brought sadness to dozens of homes and on all sides James W. Paul, government mining engineer in charge, and those who assisted him are being praised.

It was due to the hard and brave work of Mr. Paul and his assistants that three men who are well now owe their lives. Twenty-six hours after the explosion when the three men were slowly dying from suffocation it was Mr. Paul who found them and brought them to safety. The rescue of these men reads like a story in fiction.

Their miraculous escape and the labors of Mr. Paul are expected to have a widespread effect for greater safety in coal mining.

The explosion occurred at 9:30 o'clock Thursday night but owing to some irregularities the rescuing station at Pittsburg was not notified until six hours later and then Mr. Paul gathering more than 800 pounds of apparatus composing oxygen helmets and other things necessary rushed to the mine, getting there 17 hours after the explosion.

