

"WINDY SHOT" CAUSES DEATH

Investigation Begins in
Piper Mine Horror.

EIGHT KILLED AND
FIFTEEN BADLY HURT

One Hundred and Fifty in Mine at
Time of Explosion—Gov. Jelks
Will Make Investigation
—Alabama News.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 28.—Authentic information received this afternoon from Piper, where an explosion occurred in the coal mines of the Little Cahaba Coal company late last afternoon, places the number of dead at eight and the injured at fifteen.

The dead:

Louis Yance, Peter Costello, Mat Elps, John Stone, Steve Memeth, Rich Smith, Will Meade, Ward Moss. All white except Rich Smith.

Injured—A. N. Nanni, Dave Woodman, Geo. Pepleuer, Frank Brinskel, Will Keys, W. T. Phillips, Ventura Leopolda, B. Celto, Henry Coker, Sam Fisher, Q. Orizini, J. Orizini, Frank Tozzi, George Parker, Ike Foster.

Later investigation shows that the explosion was due to a "windy shot" at the hour of the day when the miners make discharges to knock down coal. Within an hour after the explosion all the dead and injured had been gotten out as rescue parties were promptly formed.

District Mine Inspector M. M. Kuffner was ordered to the scene this morning and is now making an investigation, which will be reported in full to the governor.

About one hundred and fifty men and boys were at work in the mine at the time. It is regarded as marvelous that the loss of life was not greater.

Gov. W. D. Jelks arrived in Birmingham today to make a personal investigation into the causes of the mine disaster at Piper yesterday. Gov. Jelks conferred with State Mine Inspector Gray this afternoon and gave orders that a preliminary report be made at once on the cause of the accident.