

FOURTEEN KNOWN TO HAVE PERISHED IN EXPLOSION

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mine explosion in the fourth
south entry to slope 6 at Witte-
ville, three miles from Poteau
Wednesday afternoon:

All of the bodies but two have
been brought to the morgue.

The concensus of opinion is that
all men were instantly killed.

The scene at the mouth of the
slope is almost heartrending as
the bodies are taken out. The
company has used every effort to
relieve the situation. The power
house is being used as a morgue
and hospital, and its train is be-
ing run between the mine and Po-
teau to accommodate the friends
and relatives of the deceased
miners.

Little damage was done to the
mine.

The dead are:

Peter Valsett, Angelo Beck, J.
H. Hary, Tom Reck, James Duf-
John Alexander, William Alexan-
der, Joe Batley, Ed Frankman,
Jim Thomas, Angelo Scarriott,
Francisco Reck, Jose Turk, J. H.
Dunalap.

The Witteville mines are oper-
ated by the Poteau Coal and Mer-
cantile Company, and neither the
company nor experienced miners
can assign any reason for the ex-
plosion, as shots are fired in the
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Two of the men nearest the en-

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cape.

Decatur Herald
Decatur, IL
January 26, 1906

**EXPLOSION KILLS
SIXTEEN MINERS**

**Fire Damp In Indian Territory Coal
Mine Causes Disaster.**

Poteau, I. T., Jan. 25.—Fourteen lives were lost in the explosion yesterday in slope No. 4 of the Wittsville coal mine. The explosion was caused by fire damp. Three of the bodies have been recovered, but it is impossible to enter the mine because of the after-damp, to attempt the recovery of the other bodies.

The dead are: John Alexander, Will Alexander, Peter Dunsetto, Angelo Reek, J. H. Harp, James Duffey, Thomas Reek, Joseph Batley, F. Frankman, James Thomas, Angelo Spariat, Frank Reek, Joseph Turk and A. H. Dunlap.

The explosion occurred at 1:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon in entry No. 4 where sixteen men were at work. Two of the men nearest the entrance were able to make their escape.

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Two of the men nearest the entry were able to make their escape.