

BLAST TRAPS 15 MEN IN MINE

Sing and Tell Stories When Assured They Are in No Danger.

Pittsburgh, Pa. — When a powder magazine at superior Mine No. 1, of the Superior Fuel company at Russelton, blew up, damaging more than 100 houses, fifteen men employed in the mine were compelled to stay there for several hours.

They spent the time singing and telling stories after they had been told from the surface that the mouth of the mine had been damaged, but that they were in no danger. This information was shouted to them by John Pannaman, a foreman, who spoke through a pipe leading from the surface to the bottom of the shaft.

Telegraph and telephone wires were put out of commission by the blast, which was felt in Curtisville, two miles away. The mine fan house and the engine room were badly damaged, but no one was injured. The United States bureau of mines ordered its rescue car from Ford City to Russelton before it was learned that the blast occurred outside the workings. The magazine was on a hill above the mine.

1923 Fifteen miners trapped following magazine explosion



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