

MINE RESCUERS PERISH.

Comrades Refuse to Go on, but Are Promptly Replaced.

DAWSON, N. M., Oct. 24.—Fifty-four bodies had been recovered to-night from Stag Canon Mine No. 2, leaving 209 bodies still within the gas-filled chamber, according to the estimates of the Government experts.

During the work to-day James Lurdi and William Poisi, who had removed their helmets, lost their lives, and the other members of their rescue shift refused to venture further into the mine. Their places were promptly taken by men from the rescue car which had been rushed from the Kansas coal fields.

Thirty-six bodies have already been buried, a union service for all taking place late to-day.

Walter Douglas, general manager of Phelps, Dodge & Co., who control the Stag Canon Fuel Company, to-night expressed his opinion as to the cause of the explosion. He said that gas is known to have existed in a vein of coal just above the one which the company is working, and that it has been known to enter the Stag Canon mine on occasions when part of the mine roof gave way. It is the belief that some time Wednesday a small part of the roof dropped, permitting methane gas—fire damp—to penetrate into several rooms or chambers of the mine and that subsequently some person with an unprotected lamp entered the pocket in which the gas and dust had accumulated.

E. L. Doyle, secretary-treasurer of District 15, United Mine Workers of America, with two companions, was deported from Dawson last night by order of Mayor Kinney. Mine officials explained that they had requested the Mayor not to allow agitators to come to Dawson while the work of rescue is in progress.

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