

Shoal Creek Coal Company

Panama Mine Explosion

Panama, Montgomery County, Illinois

April 5, 1915

No. Killed - 11

April 5, 1915, an explosion occurred in the Shoal Creek Coal Company's mine, Panama, Montgomery County, which resulted in the death of eleven men. The verdict of the coroner's jury in each case was: "Deceased came to his death on the 5th day of April, 1915, at or about the hour of 7 o'clock a. m., on Monday, 5th day of April, 1915, in the Shoal Creek Coal Company's mine No. 1, Panama, Illinois, from effects of an explosion and the after-damp following same." The following table shows the pertinent facts of these fatalities:

John Fritz, age 45, miner, Italian, married, widow, six children, six dependents.

Baptisto Tavan, age 34, miner, Italian, single.

Joe Stella, age 32, miner, Italian, single.

Louis Stella, age 40, miner, Italian, single.

Peter Stella, age 33, miner, Italian, single.

Andrew Seban, age 32, miner, Italian, married, widow, three children, four dependents.

Dave Thomas, age 27, miner, American, married, widow, one child, two dependents.

Joe Mihlich, age 28, miner, Italian, married, widow, one child, two dependents.

Thomas Fritz, age 26, miner, Italian, married, widow, two children, three dependents.

T. H. Burns, age 42, miner, American, married, widow, four children, five dependents.

Joseph Renner, age 28, miner, Hungarian, married, widow, two children, three dependents.