

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION

In the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Mine.

But Twenty-four Out of the 133 Canadian Miners Escaped.

An Expert Tells the Sun How the Catastrophe Was Probably Caused.

Lamentation in Cape Breton.

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 23.—A terrible explosion occurred at 7.30 last night in No. 2 shaft of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company's mine near Fernie. The explosion also extended to No. 3 shaft.

At this hour only 35 of the 200 men working in that part of the mine are known to have escaped. All the miners were whites, and many of them were from Cape Breton, adjoining Nova Scotia.

One hundred and sixty men are entombed. Nine bodies have already been brought to the surface.

The scenes at the mines and in the village of Fernie are heartrending. Hardly a house has escaped affliction.

The work of rescuing is being hurried. The presence of coal damp is adding to the danger of rescue work.

A fear has become general that the mines may catch fire, and the survivors are being brought by their relatives not to venture into the shafts, even for rescue work.

MINES NOT ON FIRE.

SEATTLE, Washington, May 23.—A special report from Vancouver, B. C., says: "Latest advices are that the mines at Fernie are found not to be on fire and that the ventilation is being restored. All the bodies will soon be recovered."

THE EXACT NUMBER WORKING IN THE mine was 133, and 24 made their escape.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 23.—A special tonight from Fernie says that the management has a list of 133 men who are known to have been in the mine, and there were probably others. Of these only 24 are known to be safe.

THE EXPLOSION OCCURRED LAST NIGHT about 7.30 in No. 2 shaft of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., extending to No. 3 shaft.

THE WORK OF RESCUE IS BEING HURRIED, and assistance from all available sources is being rushed to the rescue.

THE PRESENCE OF COAL DAMP IS ADDING GREAT DANGER TO THE WORK OF RESCUE.

OUT OF SOME TWO HUNDRED MINERS AT WORK IN THE MINE AT THE TIME THE explosion occurred only 35 or 40 are known to have escaped.

OVER 100 BODIES HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT, and of the 150 or 175 men entombed it is feared that a large percentage is lost.

PERFECT ORDER PREVAILS, although a terrible blow has set over the town.

THE SCENE IS HEARTRENDING IN THE extreme. The wall of the widows and orphans is heard on all sides.

THOSE KNOWN TO BE DEAD ARE: Stephen Morgan, John Paley, James and Douglas Muir, Thos. Fairfield and son.

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 23.—According to latest reports from Fernie, are entombed in the mines. The explosion is said to have been caused by the electric fans failing to work, allowing the fire damp to accumulate, which exploded, wrecking the tunnels and causing much damage.

MANY FAMILIES ARE AFFLICTED, as the town was almost composed of mine laborers.

THOSE KNOWN TO BE DEAD ARE: Stephen Morgan, John Halley, Jas. Muir, Douglas Muir, Thos. Fairfield and his son.

gal Muir, Thos. Fairfield and his son. The managers of the mine are doing everything possible to alleviate the distress.

AN EXPERT OPINION ON THE DISASTER.

(Special to the Sun.)

OTTAWA, May 23.—James McEvoy, geologist to the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., formerly of the geological survey, arrived in this city tonight.

THE SUN CORRESPONDENT MR. McEVoy stated that Nos. 2 and 3 mines are situated up the coal area about five miles from Fernie.

THE SAME SEAM IS WORKED FROM EACH MINE, the seam being six feet in thickness.

BOTH MINES START IN AT THE SAME POINT, the working being connected for about 500 feet.

THE NO. 2 CONTAINS ON THE LEVEL FOR ABOUT 3,000 FEET FURTHER.

THIS MINE IS TECHNICALLY KNOWN AS "AN IDLE," or cut de sec.

NO. 3 MINE IS A SLOPE OF ABOUT TEN PER CENT.

BOTH MINES HAVE A PERFECT SYSTEM OF VENTILATION, a powerful reversible fan having just been installed.

MR. McEVoy cannot account for the explosion, except that some miner may have disobeyed orders.

NAKED LIGHTS ARE ABSOLUTELY FORBIDDEN and miners are not allowed to open their safety lamps, nor to carry pipes or matches into the mines.

SOME TIMES, HOWEVER, A MAN MAY DISOBEY RULES, but he is instantly dismissed.

MR. McEVoy is hopeful that the loss of life will not be great, as the reversing of the fan in No. 2 would give air to the men in the mine.

ONLY WHITE LABOR IS EMPLOYED.

FEARED MANY FROM CAPE BRETON LOST THEIR LIVES.

SYDNEY, Cape Breton, May 23.—The news of the coal mine explosion at Fernie was received in the mining sections of Cape Breton with intense anxiety, as large numbers from Glace Bay, Bridgport, the Dominions, and Sydney Mines are known to be working in these mines.

SCORES OF MINERS HAVE GONE WEST DURING THE PAST TWO OR THREE YEARS.

IT IS FEARED THAT SEVERAL CAPE BRETONIANS HAD LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE DISASTER.

MR. MACAULAY OF GLACE BAY RECEIVED A TELEGRAM THIS EVENING STATING THAT TWO OF HIS SONS HAD ESCAPED.

THE EXPLOSION IN THE MINE THERE, BUT THE DISPATCH DID NOT GIVE ANY NEWS RESPECTING HIM.

RESCUE WORK IS PROCEEDING SLOWLY ON ACCOUNT OF GAS.

VERY LATEST.

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 23.—A special tonight from Fernie says that the management has a list of 133 men who are known to have been in the mine, and there were probably others.

OF THESE ONLY 24 ARE KNOWN TO BE SAFE.

IT IS FEARED THAT FEW, IF ANY, OF THE REMAINING 109 ARE NOW ALIVE.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

FERNIE, B. C., May 23.—A terrible explosion occurred last night about 7.30 in No. 2 shaft of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., extending to No. 3 shaft.

THE WORK OF RESCUE IS BEING HURRIED, and assistance from all available sources is being rushed to the rescue.

THE PRESENCE OF COAL DAMP IS ADDING GREAT DANGER TO THE WORK OF RESCUE.

OUT OF SOME TWO HUNDRED MINERS AT WORK IN THE MINE AT THE TIME THE explosion occurred only 35 or 40 are known to have escaped.

OVER 100 BODIES HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT, and of the 150 or 175 men entombed it is feared that a large percentage is lost.

PERFECT ORDER PREVAILS, although a terrible blow has set over the town.

THE SCENE IS HEARTRENDING IN THE extreme. The wall of the widows and orphans is heard on all sides.

out information of a reliable character. The day before the explosion Governor Inspector Dick paid an official visit to the mine and pronounced everything satisfactory.

MR. ROGERS THINKS, CAUSED THE sudden accumulation of gas, or perhaps some miner opened his lamp.

TWO YEARS AGO THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT in Gannora mine when about 10 were killed.

IN THAT CASE IT WAS FOUND THE lamp of one of the miners had gone out and another miner opened his lamp to give him a light.

LORD MINTO'S PRACTICAL SYM-PATHELY.

(Special to the Sun.)

OTTAWA, May 23.—The following message was sent today by Lord Minto to the manager of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., referring to the accident at Fernie.

"DEAR SIR: I am deeply grieved at the terrible accident. Kindly send me any particulars as to possibilities of rescue, if you have started any relief to families I will gladly assist."

(Signed) "MINTO."

CHATHAM.

Ten Young Children Attend Their Father's Funeral.

An Attempt to Rob His Majesty's Malls—New Bell in St. Andrew's Church Tower—Beautifying the Town.

CHATHAM, May 26.—The beautiful showers of rain which have gladdened the hearts of all the farmers have also increased the water in the smaller streams, so that now some of the belated drives are likely to reach safe water.

ALDERMAN WYSE HAS FOR SOME DAYS BEEN SUPERINTENDING THE beautifying of the square, and it is probable that the town will enjoy once again the pleasure of a fountain in the center.

THE OLD BAND STAND HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE site of the basin, which has had the earth removed from its interior, and all that is necessary is to connect it with the water main by the introduction of small iron pipe to have a complete hydraulic display which may be regulated to any degree of force as occasion requires.

THE FLAG HELD UPON THE staff, having given way under the stress of the elements it is decided to replace them with a flexible steeple of small size.

H. BROCKIE HAVING SECURED THE JOB, BUT AFTER AS NOT SO YOUNG AS HE WAS AND AFTER AN ineffectual attempt has been made to remove the pole, it is decided to "renew" the mast and reeve the wire at a reduced altitude.

A NEW BELL WAS PLACED IN THE tower of St. Andrew's church last week to replace the one which cracked while being rung.

JAMES DESMOND DID THE WORK OF REMOVING THE OLD AND INSTALLING THE NEW.

WILSON LONDON ON FRIDAY FOR Frederickton to go on duty in the government service.

MANY DESTITUTE FAMILIES ARE LEFT, and relief is badly needed. The government inspector of mines was here when the explosion occurred.

THE INQUEST HAS BEEN ADJOURNED FOR ONE week.

THE GAS OVERCAME THE RESCUERS ONE DAY. THE DOCTORS ARE WORKING NIGHT AND DAY.

TORONTO, May 25.—Elias Rogers, president of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., stated tonight that private despatches received by him from Fernie, B. C., gave information that the ventilation of the mine was being restored and satisfactory progress being made in recovering the bodies of the entombed men.

AS TO THE SCENE OF THE DEPLORABLE ACCIDENT MR. ROGERS IS WITH-

ST. VINCENT AND MARTINIQUE.

Egyptian Darkness Enveloped the Town of Chateau Belair.

No Hope of Reconstituting the Carib Country For Years to Come—Mount Pelee Still Belching Forth Lava and Mud.

KINGSTOWN, Island of St. Vincent, B. W. I., Saturday, May 24.—Another eruption of the night of Sunday, May 15, caused a greater fall of ashes and stones and more consternation at Chateau Belair, Island of St. Vincent, than resulted from the eruption of May 7.

SHORTLY AFTER THE APPEARANCE ON MAY 15 of a cloud which was belched from the mountain Egyptian darkness enveloped the village of Chateau Belair.

THE INHABITANTS OF THE hamlet rent the air with their shrieks and groped against the banks of the road leading to Cumberland in their anxious efforts to flee from the threatened danger.

MANY PERSONS HAD THEIR LIMBS BROKEN. THE DARKNESS LASTED ONE HOUR, but the exodus from Chateau Belair lasted all night.

DETONATIONS AND SMOKE AND LAVA FROM THE VOLCANO CONTINUED THE next day, May 19, and the people still continued their efforts to leave Chateau Belair for Kingstown and other towns.

A HEAVY RAIN FELL OCCURRED AT CHATEAU BELAIR THE 15th, the first in the district for two months, and the streets, huts and shops of the village were flooded.

AS THE VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS DIMINISHED AFTER THE NINETEENTH, some thirty of the inhabitants returned to Chateau Belair, but are still apprehensive of severe eruptions.

KINGSTOWN IS LONGING FOR RAIN, and the heat and dryness here are unendurable.

THERE IS NO HOPE FOR THE RECONSTITUTION OF THE CARIB COUNTRY FOR YEARS TO COME.

THE CANAL THAT SUPPLIED WATER TO THAT COUNTRY FOR DOMESTIC OR MANUFACTURING PURPOSES HAS DROPPED, and the district is desolated.

THE GOVERNMENT IS TREATING FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN ESTATE UPON WHICH TO SETTLE THE REFUGEES, and carpenters are engaged in erecting huts, on safe locations, to relieve the destitute.

THE CLOUD THAT ISSUED FROM THE CRATER Sunday night was visible to the inhabitants of the neighboring island of St. Lucia, and inspired them with awe.

VIVID FLASHES OF LIGHTNING WERE SEEN ON THE MORNING OF THE NINETEENTH, and these are accompanied by slight volcanic rumblings.

THE NUMBER OF NEW CRATERS IN THE disturbed district cannot be ascertained, as a recent report of the Boers in the peace negotiations, Great Britain's decision in the matter will then be communicated to the Vereeniging conference by the delegates in Pretoria.

THE BEST OBTAINABLE TERMS, they will almost certainly be accepted. The results should be announced officially either Thursday or Friday of this week, probably on Friday, the day upon which King Edward's birth is celebrated.

PEACE IS QUITE CERTAIN, says the Daily Mail, and the delegates at Pretoria are only engaged in endeavoring to gild the pill for the Vereeniging conference to swallow.

THE DAILY MAIL SAYS FURTHER: "OUR despatches from Pretoria assert that numerous communications are passing between Lord Kitchener and Milner, in South Africa and London."

THE CONSENSUS OF OPINION IS THAT THE result of recent negotiations has proved Lord Kitchener to be a great diplomatist as well as a great soldier.

THE BOER LEADERS ARE DEEPLY IMPRESSED WITH HIS PERSONALITY AND TRUST HIM implicitly.

THE HAGUE, May 26.—It is said in Boer circles here that the peace proposals made to the conference at Vereeniging, Transvaal, included the condition that the Boers in the field be allowed to consult with the Boer delegates in Europe before a definite settlement was reached.

IT IS DECLARED ALSO, UPON THE SAME AUTHORITY, that the British government refused May 23 to accede to the request.

MILLTOWN.

THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE P. V. FOX.

MILLTOWN, May 26.—The funeral of the late P. V. Fox, teacher of vocal

Blue and Black Suits.

We make a specialty of Blue and Black Serge and Worsted Suits, and are showing a large range now of no by suits at very low prices.

MEN'S SUITS in Blue and Black Serge, all wool, \$4.00. Men's S. B. SAC SUITS, D. B. Vest, Navy Blue, \$4.50.

A nice line of D. B. and S. B. SAC SUITS, Blue and Black, \$7.50, \$3.75. Other lines of specially nice dressy suits at \$10.00, \$11.00, \$12.00, \$12.75.

MEN'S SUITS, Navy Blue, silk facings, very dressy; would cost about \$20.00 in a tailor shop; our price, \$14.00.

CALL AND SEE OUR GOODS AND PRICES.

J. N. HARVEY, Men's and Boys' Clothier,

199 Union Street, St. John.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Lord Kitchener Making a Record as a Diplomat.

Almost as High as His Score as a Cold-Blooded Fighting Man—Progress of The Peace Negotiations.

PRETORIA, May 25.—The prevalence throughout South Africa of the optimistic feeling in regard to the peace negotiations, is hardly based upon solid facts.

THE PROTRACTION OF THE conference at Vereeniging is not necessarily a hopeful sign.

THE DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE, although they have abandoned their hopes of securing independence, still have many points of difference with the government.

WHILE AN OBSTINATE MINORITY CONTINUES TO REGARD THE RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES AS THE best outcome of the present situation, and at any moment these points of difference may be accentuated into a refusal to continue the negotiations, it is most unlikely that those who are in favor of peace will throw up the sponge so long as a decent minority is desirous of continuing the struggle.

ALL THESE DISSENTIENT ELEMENTS MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BEFORE IT IS POSSIBLE TO GIVE ANY SORT OF PREDICTION AS TO THE ISSUE OF THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS.

PRETORIA, May 26.—Forty-six Boers with their wagons and cattle, surrendered at Balmoral, Transvaal, yesterday.

LONDON, May 27.—The Daily Mail this morning says the cabinet council to be held today will decide upon points of detail, mostly of a financial nature, as a result of the meeting of the Boers in the peace negotiations.

GREAT BRITAIN'S DECISION IN THE MATTER WILL THEN BE COMMUNICATED TO THE Vereeniging conference by the delegates in Pretoria.

THE BEST OBTAINABLE TERMS, they will almost certainly be accepted. The results should be announced officially either Thursday or Friday of this week, probably on Friday, the day upon which King Edward's birth is celebrated.

PEACE IS QUITE CERTAIN, says the Daily Mail, and the delegates at Pretoria are only engaged in endeavoring to gild the pill for the Vereeniging conference to swallow.

THE DAILY MAIL SAYS FURTHER: "OUR despatches from Pretoria assert that numerous communications are passing between Lord Kitchener and Milner, in South Africa and London."

THE CONSENSUS OF OPINION IS THAT THE result of recent negotiations has proved Lord Kitchener to be a great diplomatist as well as a great soldier.

THE BOER LEADERS ARE DEEPLY IMPRESSED WITH HIS PERSONALITY AND TRUST HIM implicitly.

THE HAGUE, May 26.—It is said in Boer circles here that the peace proposals made to the conference at Vereeniging, Transvaal, included the condition that the Boers in the field be allowed to consult with the Boer delegates in Europe before a definite settlement was reached.

IT IS DECLARED ALSO, UPON THE SAME AUTHORITY, that the British government refused May 23 to accede to the request.

NEGRO LYNCHED

By a Mob Who Battered in the Jail's Iron Doors With Sledge Hammers.

The mob came into the town at midnight and went at once to the jail. The sheriff, James W. Clark, and his deputies stood before the entrance to the jail armed with drawn revolvers and threatened to shoot the first man who attempted to force an entrance.

THE MOB REMAINED IN FRONT OF THE jail for nearly two hours parleying with the officers and finally marched away. About two o'clock several men approached and engaged the sheriff and his deputies in conversation.

THEY SUDDENLY BEFORE THE OFFICERS COULD DEFEND THEMSELVES, they were seized, disarmed and carried away. The mob then quickly reappeared, surrounded the jail again and with sledge hammers battered down the iron doors.

WITHERUP WAS SECURED, HE MADE NO resistance and confessed his guilt. He was taken to the bridge a quarter of a mile away where his feet were tied by a brother of the murdered man.

THE FATHER OF GROW ADJUSTED THE rope about Witherup's neck and pushed him off the structure. Death was almost instantaneous. The mob left the body hanging and dispersed quickly and quietly.

MIXED PAINT.

Thorne's Pure Ready-mixed Paint,



a combination of pure white lead, linseed oil and driers. No chemical combination or soap mixture. Insist on having Thorne's. It is the best. Ask for our painters' supply Catalogue.

W. H. THORNE & CO. LTD., ST. JOHN, N. B.

EUREKA FLY KILLER.

This absolute KILLER of FLIES and LICE has been proved in the United States and Canada to be the BEST YET DISCOVERED as shown by thousands of testimonials from farmers and others in the Maritime Provinces and elsewhere.

It is sold at every first class country store in N. B., N. S. and P. E. I.

If proof is needed, please write to the manufacturers, the

LAWTON SAW CO. St. John, N. B.