

HUNDREDS OF  
MINERS KILLED

**Fire Damp Explodes in Reden  
Mine, at St. Johannon Daar,  
Near Saarbruch.**

## 164 DEAD BODIES RECOVERED

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### Six Hundred in Shaft When Explosion Occurred. Fire Breaks

**Terrible Disaster, Involving Great Loss  
Of Life, Occurs at Coal Mine at  
Lievin, France.**

Saarburck, Rhenish Prussia, Jan. 28.—A fire damp explosion occurred about 8 o'clock this morning in the Bildestock shaft of the Reden mine, at St. Johann-non-Damm, opposite this town. Up to 9 o'clock this afternoon the bodies of 18 dead miners had been taken out of the mine, and 17 men dangerously injured had been rescued and more than 100 miners were missing. There were about 500 men at the mine.

men working in the shaft when the explosion occurred but half of them were not in the galleries which were wrecked. The rescue corps is working desperately to reach the men and it is hoped that some of them will be found alive. The scene at the pit mouth, where the families of the miners gathered were most distressing. The mine is owned by the Prussian government.

An outbreak of fire in the Reden mine has driven out the rescuers. It is considered that 40 to 45 men are still in the pit. The number of dead is now estimated at 200.

### HUNDREDS ENDANGERED.

Berlin, Jan. 28.—A dispatch to the Tagblatt from Saarbrück says the fire has broken out in the Reden shaft and that it will be impossible to continue the rescue work. Several hundred men are endangered.

**DISASTER IN FRANCE.**

Lens, France, Jan. 28.—A terrible disaster, involving the loss of many lives, has occurred in a coal mine at Levin, in the Courrières district. The explosion was caused by a gas trap. A catastrophe followed the explosion and the greater part of the population of the town rushed to the mouth of the mine pit, preventing the workmen from descending and restoring a semblance of order.

The mayor of Levin, who is an engineer, has superintended the work since the 812 miners who had descended into the pit this morning, 6:30 a. m., had been brought to the surface. The chief engineer, his assistants, and the chief engineer and his assistants, horribly mangled, were recovered.

**MINISTRY'S ADVICE.**

Paris, Jan. 28.—Advices received from the ministry of labor indicate that Vassiere, the chief engineer, and two of his assistants were probably the only victims of the explosion in the coal mine today at Lieven. It appears that they had gone down to search for a gas leak, the task not requiring the assistance of any of the mine employees.

**BRYAN IN LOS ANGELES.**

**Speak on "The Nation."**  
Los Angeles, Jan. 28.—Hon. W. B. Bryan, accompanied by Mrs. Bryan, arrived in Los Angeles at 2:30 this morning from San Francisco for a three days' visit. Mr. Bryan was met at the depot by a reception committee of 25 headed by Mayor Harper and was taken immediately to the Hotel Hamilton. Nathan Matthews, who has been guarding Mr. and Mrs. Bryan while they dwell during their stay here. This afternoon the party took an automobile ride through the city and surrounding country. Tonight Mr. Bryan lectured under the auspices of a charitable or-

Tuesday a private party of 50, comprising members of the various committees having to do with Mr. Bryan's entertainment, and their wives, will accompany Mr. and Mrs. Bryan to Catalina island.

The chief event of Mr. Bryan's visit is the banquet to be given in his honor on Tuesday night at which 60 covers will be laid. On this occasion the distinguished Nebraskan will deliver his principal address, having for his subject, "The Nation."

**COMPLAINTS AGAINST  
SOUTHERN PACIFIC RY**

San Francisco, Jan. 28.—Interstate Commerce Commissioner Franklin V. Lane today began an investigation of the complaints of jobbers and manufacturers that the Southern Pacific company is collecting a toll of 5 cents on all freight received here whether it comes over the wharves of the state or not. The state charges this toll when goods are shipped from the coast. It is alleged that the railroad company collects this toll from shippers even on freights that come up the coast road and that never reach the wharves. The jobbers and manufacturers claim that this toll should not be collected by the railroad and is not paid by the railroad, the state.

Commissioner Lane will also continue the inquiry into the facts connected with the so-called Harriman merger. Among those who arrived to attend the hearing are J. C. Stubbs, vice president of the Harriman lines, and traffic director of the Southern Pacific and other companies; Atty. C. A. Severance of St. Paul; and R. S. Lovett, one of the Southern Pacific's legal advisers in New York. The hearing opened at 10 o'clock in the rooms of the United States district court of appeals.

Springfield, Mass., Jan. 28.—The plant of the Phelps Publishing company was destroyed by fire early today. The loss is estimated at \$1,000,000. The company published Good Housekeeping, a monthly magazine; the Monthly American Agriculturist, the Orange Jud Farmer, the New England Homestead and Farm and Home. Arrangements are being made for the publication of these journals in other cities.