Control suppression

Report of

Supervisor Weigle on Fires of 1910 in which lives were lost.

NO copy

Wallace, Idaho, June 24, 1911.

00 Coeur d'Alone, Fire.

District Porester,

Missoula, Montana.

Dear Sir:

The following is a report relative to the men who lost their lives fighting forest fires on the Coeur d'Alene National Forest on August 20 and 21, 1910:

Idaho known to the oldest settlers. With the exception of a few light showers there was no rainfall in this region from April 1 to October 1, 1910. The forest fires on the Coeur d'Alone National Forest began in April, and during the months of May and June they were numberous but owing to the fact that the humus covering the ground had not yet thoroughly dried ont we were able to extinguish all of the fires that occurred during these months. The continued dry weather however by the 15th of July made the conditions so very bad that even though a fire was apparently extinguished a crew had to be kept continually on the fire line owing to the fact that the fire would smoulder underneath the ground and could not be

fully extinguished. By this time new fires were starting at various points throughout the Forest practically every day, caused chiefly by sparks from railroad engines, settlers burning brush and careless campers.

On July 83 a severe electric storm, with practically no rain, passed over this region, setting numerous fires throughout the entire district. On the morning of July 24. by special orders the rangers throughout the Forest were looking for electric fires and were successful on July 24, 25 and 26 in extinguishing nine fires set by lightning. Five others however started by the same cause in extremely inaccessible places for away from trails and roads attained such proportions before getting crews of sufficient size to them that it was impossible to put them immediately under control. Many of these fires were in such inaccessible places that provisions had to be packed to the men on men's backs until a trail could be cut within reach of the fire. This condition always weakened the fire fighting force at the start when the heavy crew was most needed and would be most beneficial. From this time on practically every day brought news of new fires, starting largely from brands blowing from the other fires. On August 13, even though the nearest fire in a straight line was six miles from Vallace, numerous pieces of burning bark as large as a man's hand fell in the

streets of Wallace, setting awnings on fire in three different cases. This condition of course maintained throughout the timbered areas within reach of all the fires. By this time we had, besides two troops of soldiers, about eighteen hundred men fighting forest fires on the Coer d'Alene national Forest, and we felt that everything was in good condition owing to the fact that we had fire lines practically around all of the fires and there is not any question whatever that had there been normal conditions we would have been successful in stopping all of these fires without any great loss of timber.

On August 20 however a heavy wind arose about noon, blowing toward the northeast, which brushed up all of the fires to such an extent that it was impossible to hold them within the confines of the fire trenches dug around the fires. These fires not only swept over the fire lines, but the stiff breeze that was blowing became intensified by the heat of the many fires until throughout this fire region the wind attained hurricane proportions, scattering the fire to such an extent that new fires started in thousands of places, often following the tops of the trees for miles before it would meet some open country to stop it. The enclosed photographs show the intensity of the wind at this time and the character of the destruction now to be found on many

thousands of acres. These were the conditions that led to the loss of life of the fire flighters.

knew every trail, stream and open place in the region, but owing to the fact that the severe windstorm started up thousands of new fires within a short time it made little difference which direction the men were taken, as new fires were springing up all around them which made their escape impossible. Although the fire fighters were distributed over the entire region from the head of the St. Joe river to the head of the Coour d'Alene river, a distance of practically one humbred miles, the loss of life occurred wholly within the region between Wallace and the St. Joe river, where the storm conditions seemed to be much worse than anywhere else.

The men who had charge of the several unfortunate

Complete to man forte

Crews were E. C. Pulaski, Forest Ranger; John W. Bell,

Forest Ranger; William H. Rock, Assistant Forest Ranger;

R. H. Debitt, Assistant Forest Ranger; L. A. Hollingshead,

Elevant Parist

Forest Guard; James Danilson, Forest Guard, and S. H.

Taylor.

Mr. Pulaski, who is about forty years of age, is a man of most excellent judgment, conservative, thoroughly

acquainted with the region, having prospected throughout the burned area during the last twenty-five years, and is considered by the old timers in the region as one of the best and safest men that could have been placed in charge of a crew of men in the hills. Mr. Pulaski was in charge of about one hundred fifty men distributed over a distance of several miles alongthe divide between Big Creek of the Coeur d'Alene river and Big Creek of the St. Joe river. the danger conditions became imminent he rounded up about forty of his men who were in the danger zone and cut off from safety on the west side of the fire where the other men were located and started with them down the mountain toward Wallace, a distance of ten miles. When he got about half way however he found that he was cut off by new fires. At the sight of this his men became panic stricken, but he assured them that he would still get them to a place of safety. thoroughly familiar with the region he knew of two prospect tunnels near by, the shotter being about fifty feet in length and the longer about one huntred feet in length. Not being certain as to whether or not he could reach the largest and safest, by putting a wet gunny sack over his head he penetrated the dense make to where he could see the largest tunnel, and finding it was safe he rushed back to his men and hurried

them to the tunnel, getting them there just in time to get them inside before the fire reached them. The portion of his crew with him consisted of forty-two men and two horses. He got all of his men and horses inside of the tunnel. with the exception of one man who had fallen a few hundred feet behind and was caught by the fire before he could reach the tunnel. The intense heat caused by the forest fire outside of the tunnel caused the cold air of the tunnel to rush out and the smoke and hot air to rush in. The timbers supporting the tunnel caught fire and Pulaski stood as near to _ the mouth of the tunnel as he could, and from a little stream that flowed from the bottom of the tunnel dipped water with his hat to dash upon the burning timbers, until he was badly burned and fell unconscious. Prior to becoming unconscious himself he had commanded all his men to lie on their faces for protection. All of the men were evidently unconscious for a portion of the time. One of the sen however having sustained less injury than the others, recovered to the extent that he was able to crawl out of the tunnel, and the fires by this time had subsided sufficiently for him to drag himself into Wallace and notify the Forest Office. This was about three o'clock in the morning. A crew was immediately sent to the tunnel and all of the men and the horses were removed. Although nearly all of the forty-two men were still

Mr. Tho

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in a helpless condition after being taken to the hospital in Vallace, they rapidly recovered their strength, with the exception of five who had smothered before they were reached. The two horses, although still living, were in such bad condition that they were immediately shot. The man who failed to get into the tunnel was burned beyond recognition. Had not pulaski known the location of this tunnel everyone of the forty-two men in his crew would have perished.

Bells crew. Middle first Gin Cocco.

Mr. John W. Bell is a run of about thirty-five years of age, thoroughly acquainted with mountain conditions, having spent a large part of his life in this western country. He is conservative and thoughtful and an all around man of the mountains. He had his crew, consisting of about fifty men, working in conjunction with Pulaski's crew at the head of the middle fork of Big Creek. When the terrific windstorm arose and fires were started in many new places he sought safety on a small clearing on the homestead claim of Joseph Beaucham. Under ordinary conditions this place, consisting of a clearing of about two acres, would have been sufficient to offer protection. A small stroom flowed through the opening and some of the men protected themselves by lying down in the stream, while seven sought shelter in a small cave that had been aug for the purpose of storing the belongings of Mr. Beauchamp. The terrific storn that preceded the fire

by about a minute, which was of course intensified by the fire, overturned and broke off practically every tree of a dense forest in this region. The seven men who sought shelter in the cave were burned beyond recognition and three others who were in the stream were killed by a falling tree. -constituted the number of dead of this crew, but the remainder who sought shelter in the creek had their hair burned off the back part of their heads and the skin all burned from their necks, besides being nearly suffocated from the smoke. One of these injured men made his way into Wallace, a distance of twelve miles, by nine o'clock on Sunday morning, the day after they were injured. Judging from the distress of the men in Pulaski's crew I had already put a crew of seventeen men to work cutting out a trail leading to this point, and upon learning the condition of the men I impediately sent out two doctors on foot, with a crew of men with medicines, blunkets and provisions, to help the injured men. It required a crew of seventeen men working all day Sunday, Sunday night, Monday and Monday night to open the trail to the injured men twelve miles from Wallace. This enabled me to get pack horses into the injured men and they were brought to Wallace. With the exception of two men ho had friends at this place the dead men were buried near the spot where they died, a few days later. Reverend Carter, a Congregational minister at Wallace, volunteer ed to go along with the burial crew to give Christian burial to the dead. All of this crew, with the exception of the ten men who were killed, speedily recovered from their injuries at the hospital at Wallace.

Rock's Crew Setzer Creek.

Mr. William H. Rock is a man about twenty-five years of age, having served for two years in the region in which he was fighting fire; therefore he was thoroughly acquainted with the details of the region where his men were working. He had a crew of approximately seventy men about six miles northeast of Avery, Idaho. When the terrific windstorn arons and the fires started up in many places he found he was cut off from getting his men out to Avery. Therefore he led them to an area that had burned over the day before. This proved to be a place of absolute safety and all the men came out uninjured. (As evening drew on the fires were burning up so terrifically that huge columns of maoke which contained large quantities of combustible material would frequently burst into flames that would shoot into the sky for thousands of feet. This, some of the men told later, frightened Oscar Weigert to the extent of his wanting to kill himself. He however left the crew without anyone knowing it at the time, and even though two shots were heard no one knew that he had taken his life until the following morning. Mr. Rock had his crew in perfect safety, and the unfortunate happening to Mr. Weigert was a matter entirely beyond the control of Mr. Rock who was in charge.

Debbitt's Crew Sotate Creek

Mr. Debitt is about thirty-five years of age. was in charge of the district during the last four years, having headquarters within six miles of where the men perished; therefore was thoroughly acquainted with all the conditions which might have led to the protection of the men. -Owing to the fact that he had general charge of the district he was away from the men when they perished, but a few hours preceding this, seeing that danger was imminent, he sent Charles Sullivan, who was then serving as Deputy Sheriff at Avery, into where about seventy men were working on Setser Creek, telling them to come out to Avery immediately as there was danger of being hermed in by the fire. All of these men came out with the exception of twenty-eight who thought there was no danger and refused to come. All of these twenty-eight were burned beyond recognition a few hours afterward. men were all wrapped in blankets and sewed in heavy canvas and buried where they were burned.

Hollings hear's them west Fred Big Creek

Mr. Hollingshead is about twenty-two years of age.

Although a young man, he has always exercised good judgment.

He is conservative and had served as Forest Guard in the immediate region in which he had charge of men for two years; therefore was thoroughly familiar with the country. He had charge of a crew on the west fork of Big Creek fighting a fire that was coming northeast from Trout Creek. He had a

crew of about sixty men. When the terrific winds scattered the fires all over the region and they discovered that they were surrounded by fire all of his men, with the exception of nineteen, worked through the fire line to a place of safety on an area that had previously burned over. Nineteen of these men, being thoroughly panic stricken, rushed down the hill ahead of the fire to a little cabin where five pack horses were stationed. They found that the fire was all around them. They went into the cabin and remained there until the roof began falling in. They rushed out of this and tried to break through the fire line, but the fire was so terrific that eighteen out of the mineteen perished in the flames within a few feet of the cabin. The nineteenth man accidentally worked his way through the fire line and came out to the St. Joe two days later with all of the skin off of his face and hands and his clothing practically burned from his body. After six weeks in the hospital this man fully recovered. Mr. Hollingshead the next day went into the place where these men perished and found eighteen men, five horses and a large black bear that had perished in theflames all at the same place. The men were wrapped in blankets and canvas and buried where they perished. They were all burned beyond recognition.

Survivor

Bandelsons Crow - Stevens pens

James Danilson is a young run about twenty-two years old. Although young he was thoroughly acquainted with woods work and had been over the region many times where his crew was located; therefore was thoroughly familiar with the location. He had eighteen men in his crew. When he found he was surrounded by fire he took his men to an open park near the timber line which contained a light covering of bear grass. They burned off a large area in this park, thinking that by so doing they would have absolute protection, and the general appearances would indicate that they did have protection of the very hest kind. When the terrific fires however approached this area, instead of stopping when the burned area was reached, as would be expected, they continued to burn over the same area the second time. The men in Danilson's charge had their blankets with them which served as their only protection. They held these blankets over their heads until the flames had practically consumed them. One of the men, however, by accident inhaled the flames and perished on the spot. The other men were very badly burned about the face and hands. The fire reached these men about nine o'clock Saturday evening. Barly Sunday morning Mr. Danilson, although badly injured, worked his way into Mullan, a distance of five miles, and delivered the news. Pack horses were invediately sent to the place and the men, although badly injured, were

office before they were brought to Wallace at 2 P. M. by special train which I received through the kindness of the worthern Pacific Railway Company. These men were all placed in the Wallace Hospital, where they remained from one to six weeks, and all recovered with the exception of three men who have stiff hands.

Taylors Crew - Bullian Mine

S. M. Taylor is a man of about forty years of age and a conservative, intelligent fellow, thoroughly able to handle men and a prospector in this region for many He had charge of the Bullion fire along the Montana-Idaho line cast of Wallace. When Mr. Taylor discovered that he was surrounded by fires he took his crew, consisting of about sixty men, to the tunnel of the Bullion Mine, which seemed to Mr. Taylor to offer absolute protection. the men, Mr. Ryson, who was with the crew, knew the tunnel thoroughly owing to the fact that he had made it. Most of the crew who went into the tunnel passed an overhead air shaft. Eight of the men however did not do this and the smoke rushed in to where these eight hen were located and sufficated them. The remaining crew came out a few hours afterward without any injury; neither had they experienced any inconvenience during the time they were in the tunnel. Mr. Taylor is mediately notified me of the conditions and

although this was within about four miles of the Northern Pacific Railway, several large treatles along the mountain had burned out; therefore I could not depend wholly upon the railroad to bring these lead men to Wallace, so I sent a crow of men the next day to bury the dead bodies. ten days later, when the railroad was sufficiently repaired on both sides of the mountain to make it more convenient for handling these bodies, I sent a crew of men to the place with pack horses to disinter the bodies and bring them to the railroad, where through the kindness of the Northern Pacific Railway Company a special car brought them across the mountain to Dorsey. At this point a trestle was still not replaced and the dead bodies were transferred to another special train sent out from Vallace. The bodies were delivered at the morgue at Wallace and prepared for burial and a few days later they were given Christian burial in the Wallace cemetery.

The following is a list of the men who perished in the fires, the list being followed by specific state-ments concerning each man.

COEUR D'ALENE NATIONAL FOREST

Setser Creek Fire

R. M. Debitt, Asst. Forest Ranger in Charge.

	1.	George Smith	\$21.25
	2.	Geo. A. Blodgett	51.00
	3.	James Kerr	39.50
	4.	Harry Jackson	5.50
	5.	L. Ustlo	41.75
	6.	James Donahue	19.25
	7.	Frank Sanders	5.50
	8•	Patrick Grogan	51.50
	9.	Larry Levar	39.00
	10.	M. Phweiser	39.00
	11.	J. Rusick	42.00
	12.	M. Dilo	5.50
	13.	Jack Hill	5.50
	14.	0. Bing (neuroberg)	5.50
	15.	Ed Murphy	21.50
	16.	H. Sipheas	5.50
	17.	Ralph Ekhoen	6.00
	18.	Frank Skeychell	5.50
	19.	Ed Durin	41.00
	20.	W. F. Norton	5.50
	21.	L. Schwartz	5.50
	22.	. W. H. Baker	5.50
	23	Frank Masterson	40.50

24. George McGurk

\$39.00

	24. 4001 80	
	25. O. Ellefson	38.75
	26. F. D. Swick	5.50
	27. W. Polk	5.50
	28. Wm. Casey	5.50
	WEST FORK BIG CREEK FIRE	
**	L. A. Hollingshead, Forest Guard, in Char	rge∙
V	29. Gus Johnson	15.00
	30. W. Flynn	15.00
	31. Sam Hull	15.00
	32. L. Johnson	15.00
	33. Edward Frye	15.00
	34. John Hoss	15.00
	35. Harry Smith	15.00
	36. Joe Denton	15.00
	37. J. Stevens	15.00
	38. J. Harp	20.00
	39. Chris Christianson	15.00
	40. James Denton	15.00
	41. Glenn Taylor	15.00
	42. K. Anderson	15.00
	43. E. Smith	15.00
	44	
	45	
	46	,
	47	

BIG CREEK FIRE

J. W. Bell, Forest Ranger, in Charge.

	48. Upton B. Smith	\$67.50
	49. Geo. W. Cameron	84.25
٠	50. Guecomo Viettone	49.00
	51. Dominick Bruno	49.00
	52. W. J. Elliott	25.25
^	53. Joseph Beauchamp	9.00
	54. Roderick A. Ames	6.00
	55. Tony Butcher	54.00
-	56. Chris Omiso	55.50
	57. C. Buck	62.25
	BIG CREEK FIRE	
	E. C. Pulaski, Asst. Forest Ranger, i	n Charge.
	58. Wm. Learmouth	38.50
•	59. Joe Fern (Vec Ferre in comme)	44.50
	60. Harry Hanson (seeky spiritual to Wether att.)	44.50
Z.	61. Richard Woods (Died in termed)	58.50
Ĵ €	62. Louis Shoman	39.25
	63. August Berger	55.50
	STEVENS PEAK FIRE	

James Danielson, Forest Guard, in Charge.

64. Walter Beamair (Reason in wrip.) 6.00

BULLION MINE FIRE

S. M. Taylor in Charge.

65. Val Nicholson	\$22.55
66. Larry Ryson	48.55
67. Leslie Zellers	51.50
68. S. D. Adams /	54.50
69. Aaron Benton v	48.00
70. Louis Holmes V	36.50
71. Thomas Welch /	21.25
72. Ernest Elgin /	10.00
AVERY FIRE	

W. H. Rock, Asst. Forest Ranger, in Charge.

73. Oscar Weigert

15.00

Many of the men who perished in the fires on the Goour d'Alene National Forest in August, 1910, are still unidentified, and the chances are that we never will be able to identify them. The fact that we are unable to identify them may seem strange to anyone not familiar with the conditions. Of the men used in fighting forest fires were men who were floating around through the country apparently having no home. Hany of the mon passed under assumed names, and through the great stress for time the precaution was not taken when they were hired to have them give a statement concerning their relatives or home address, if they had any. The only thing we have to go by is the name of the man as taken from him or placed upon our time books. We received many of the men that we employed from the employment agencies of Spokane and Butte, and these employment agencies have nothing to show further than the name of the man. We have written hundreds of letters and followed up every trace that might lead to the identification of the men. but we feel cortain that there are a number of men who perished that will never be identified.

The following information is everything we have regarding them at the present time:

SETSER CREEK FIRE

R. M. Debitt's Crew.

1. GEORGE SMITH.

Murphy, San Jose, California. Mr. Smith's father came to Avery a short time after his death for the purpose of removing the body, but he found that he could not do it at that time. Since then we have been trying to correspond with Mr. Murphy and Barney Smith, father of the dead man, but have been unable to reach them up to the present time.

The effects found upon Mr. Dmith consist of one silver watch, open face, 25 jewels, Columbus Ming make. Watch in Wallace office.

Buried on Setser Croek.

2. GEORGE A. BLODGETT.

His father, Henry Blodgett, of Willet, Cortland County, N. Y., and his mother, Elizabeth Blodgett, Whitney Point, Broome Co., N. Y., R. D. No. 1, were notified of their son's death, and they have executed

the necessary papers to receive the amount due their son.

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Time.
Aug. 4 - 10 hours
     5 - 11
     6 - 11
     7 - 11
     8 - 12
         15
     9-
    10 - 11
    11 - 12
    12 - 12
    13 - 11
    14 - 12
    15 - 13
    16 - 12
    17 - 13
    18 - 13
    12 - 12
        204 hours, $51.00 amount due.
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3. JAMES KERR.

Address Lowiston, Idaho. Wife found. Died on Setzer Creek, buried on Setzer Creek. Wife communcated with at Lewiston, Idaho. Mrs. James Kerr.

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Time.

Aug. 9 - 11 hours

10 - 13

11 - 12

12 - 12

13 - 11

14 - 12

15 - 13

16 - 12

17 - 13

18 - 13

19 - 12

20 - 12

21 - 12

158 hours, $39.50 amount due,
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which was paid to wife, Mrs. James Kerr, at Lewiston, Idaho. (Vo. No. 900).

4. HARRY JACKSON.

Address, Tacoma, Washington. Identified by Harry McCarthy, whose address is not known. McCarthy claims to be a cousin of deceased. Identified by Ed Besset by hoel plate worn on shoe. Wrote to Mayor of Tacoma to look up this man but received no reply.

5. L. USTLO.

Name may be Ustola or U. S. Tola. Address unknown. Effects, gold watch with dealer's name, Sloan and Froinburg, Ironwood, Michigan. Buried on Setser Creek. Was a foreigner. Thisman was a tall and well-dressed Finlander. Effects, pocket knife and watch sold by Sloan and Froinburg, Ironwood, Michigan. Open face gold watch, 17 jewelled adjusted, called "The Accurate Time.", Manufactured by the Cosmopolitan Watch Co., U. S. A., works No. 1349879, case No. 1044005, Wadsworth case.

Wore lace belt and picture. Scar on right knee.

Have so far been unable to get a clue as to this man's identity.

6. JAMES DONAHUE.

Address unknown, no known friends. Effects, pocket knife, bowl of pipe, axe stone, tobacco, pipe and stone and pocket knife found on body. Identified by these. Probably from Havre, Montana. Wrote Mayor of city.

Age about 50 years. Height, 5 ft. 10 in., light blue eyes, inclined to be weak, hair sprinkled with gray. Wore calked boots, smooth shaven, thought to be a lumber jack by trade. No reply from mayor of Havre, Montana.

Time.
Aug. 16 - 14 hours
17 - 14
18 - 13
19 - 12
20 - 12
21 - 12
77 hours, \$19.25 amount due.

7. FRANK SANDERS.

Address unknown. No known friends. Worked for a time for B. R. V. I. Co. in Ravalli, County, Montana. This company has been written, but they know nothing about the man. On body were found a note book partly burned, and special road tax receipt for 1910, and poor tax receipt for year 1910, Ravalli Co., Montana. Note book gives address as Ravalli Co., Montana. Also gives name of Sam Blazer. Worked for B. R. V. I. Co. from about March 19 to Aug. 1, 1910. Wrote to Milwaukee and to places in Indiana, but received no reply. Name in note book which looks like Miss Murther, Centor, Indiana. Wrote to Post Master,

D. F. - 23.

Center, Indiana, but received no reply.

6. PATRICK GROGAN.

Address Butte, Montana. Body shipped to Butte, Montana, to his daughter, Mrs. Dolan, Hotel Reilly, 222

Dearborn St., Butte, Montana.

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Time.

Aug. 6 - 12 hours

7 - 11

8 - 16

9 - 11

10 - 11

11 - 12

12 - 12

13 - 11

14 - 12

16 - 24

17 - 13

19 - 12

20 - 24

206 hours, $51.50 due.
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Mrs. Dolan and Mrs. Kline, daughters of Patrick Grogan, deceased, were paid \$51.50 on account of services of their father.

9. LARRY LEVAR.

Buried on Setser Creek. Identified by M. J. Merrick, 223 Howard St., Spokane, Washington. We have corresponded with his mother, Udova Maria Levar, Posta Hreljin Silo Zastene, Europa, Austria, Hivatsko Primerji. The necessary papers have been sent to his mother for execution,

so that the amount due him from the Government may be paid to her.

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Aug. 9 - 11 hours
    10 - 11
    11 - 12
    12 - 12
    13 - 11
       - 12
    14
    15
       - 12
    16
    17 - 13
    18 - 15
    19 - 13
    20 - 12
    21 - 12
         156 hours, $39.00 duo.
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10. M. PHWEISER.

Address unknown. Buried on Setser Creek. No clue as to this man's identity.

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Time.
Aug. 9 - 11
10 - 11
11 - 12
12 - 12
13 - 11
14 - 12
15 - 13
16 - 12
17 - 13
18 - 13
19 - 12
20 - 12
21 - 12
156 hours, $39.00 amount due.
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11. J. RUSICK.

Buried on Betaer Creek. Address unknown. Identified by M. J. Merrick, Spokane, Washington. On Bay 27, 1911, we wrote the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Consul, Denver, Colorado, for information regarding father of J.

D. F. - 25.

Ruzic, who, we are informed, is Stjepan Ruzic, post office Hrejin Hrvatsko Primorje, Hungary. If it is determined that he is the father of J. Rusick a veucher and affidavit will be sent to him through the Austro-Hungarian Consulfor his execution.

Time.

Aug. 9 - 11

10 - 11

11 - 12

12 - 12

13 - 11

14 - 12

15 - 13

16 - 12

17 - 13

18 - 13

19 - 12

20 - 24

21 - 12

168 hours, \$42.00 amount due.

12. M. DILO.

Address unknown. Buried on Setser Creek. No clue as to this man's identity.

13. JACK HILL.

Buried on Setser Creek. Mrs. J. C. Hill of Seattle thinks that this man was her son, Richard Hill. We sent her a photograph of the man, but she is still not quite positive as to the identification.

14. O. BING.

Address unknown. Buried on Setser Greek. No clue to this man's identity.

15. ED MURPHY.

Address unknown. Buried on Setser Creek. No clue as to his identity.

16. H. SIPHERS.

Home in Mercur, Utah. Harley Lercy Siphers, 20 years of age, hair nearly black, slightly pock writed, height about 5 ft. 8 1/2 in. Word #5 or 9 shoe. Buriod on Seter Creek, body No. 5. J. W. Siphers, Wallace, Idaho, called at office and found photograph with effects, which he identified. Effects; 2 dires, 1 nickel, 1 Ingersol watch, 1 photograph button. Turned over to brother.

Shipped from Missoula, Aug. 19 at 9;80 p.m. for Avery, Idaho. Brother claims to be only living relative.

Time. Aug. 20 - 10 hours 21 - 12 22 hours, \$5.50 amount due.

Voucher and affidavit in favor of J. W. Siphers, brother sent to Missoula for payment, Vo. No. 1428.

D. F. - 27.

17. RALPH EKHOEN.

Address unknown. Buried on Setser Creek. No clue as to his identity.

18. FRANK SKEYCHELL.

Address unknown. Buried on Setsor Creek. No clue as to his identity. This man may be Frank Getchell, Basin, Montana. Mrs. L. G. Huntley of Basin, Montana, writes inquiring about a man by that name who started to right fires. Letter written to Mrs. Huntley requesting photograph or further information but no reply to letter has been received.

19. ED DUHN.

Buried on Setser Cresk. Numerous traces followed up by letters but no identification.

```
Time.

Aug. 9 - 11 hours

10 - 11

11 - 12

12 - 12

13 - 11

14 - 15

15 - 12

16 - 12

17 - 13

18 - 13

19 - 12

20 - 18

21 - 12 | 164 hours, $41.00 amount due.
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20. W. F. NORTON.

Address unknown. Euried on Setser Creek.

21. L. SCHWARZ.

Buried on Setser Creek. Louis Schwarz, father of L. Schwarz, noticed his son's name in the list of dead published in the paper, and through the German Consul at Seattle we have established his identity, and vouchers and affidnvits have been sent to his father for execution.

22. W. H. BAKER.

Buried on Setser Creek. We wrote to Mrs. Martha Bachus, Box 372 Luverne, Minnesota, and through her we have established the identity of W. H. Baker, she being a sister. She states that his brother and father are living in San Antonio, Texas. We have again written to Mrs. Bachus for further information concerning the identity of this man.

23. FRANK MASTERSON.

Buried on Setser Creek. Was identified by Dock Masterson of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. Mary Masterson, mother of Frank Masterson, deceased, who lives in St. Croix Falls, Wizconsin, R. F. D. No. 2., has been paid \$40.50, the amount due, by voucher No. 1328.

Time.

Aug. 9 - 11 hours

10 - 11

11 - 12

12 - 14

13 - 15

14 - 13

15 - 12

16 - 13

17 - 13

18 - 12

19 - 12

20 - 12

21 - 12

162 hours, \$40.50 amount due.

24. GEORGE McGURK.

Address unknown. Duplicate time shows "G. McGusk."
No clue as to his identity.

```
Time.

Aug. 9 - 11

10 - 11

11 - 12

12 - 12

13 - 11

14 - 12

15 - 13

16 - 12

17 - 13

18 - 13

19 - 12

20 - 12

21 - 12

156 hours, $39.00 amount due.
```

25. O. ELLEFSON.

Buried on Setser Creek. Identified by Mrs. M. Kloven who saw the name of Ellefson in the paper. She wrote to this office concerning the same, and we requested that

a photograph be sent. The photograph was positively identified by Ed Besset, one of the men working in the fire crew. Woucher and affidavit have been sent to Mrs. M. Kloven, R. F. D. No. 2, Douglas, South Dakota, and Mrs. L. O. Tollefson, Spring Grove, Minnesota, for execution, these persons being the sisters and only heirs of Mr. Ellefson.

26. F. D. SWICK.

Address unknown. Buried on Setser Creek. No clue as to his identity.

27. W. POLK.

Address unknown. Buried on Setser Creek. No clue as to identity.

p. F. - 31.

erece Local

28. WM. CASEY.

Buried on Setser Creek. He was an elderly man.

We wrote Mrs. William Casey, who was supposed to be the wife of William Casey, at 519 Second Ave. West, Great Falls, Montana. Mrs. Casey thinks that William Casey was her husband, but we have no positive way of identifying him.

BIG CREEK FIRE.

Hollingshead!s Crew.

29. GUST JOHANSEN.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Creek. Shipped from Lyons Employment office on August 16th. Shipped to Pocono. No clue as to his identity.

30. W. FLYNN.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Creek. Singed at Inland Emphre Employment Agency, Spokane, Washington, Aug. 15th. Shipped to Pocono, Aug. 16th. Signed name

Davenport, Iowa. Wrote Chief of Police there, but he writes that he can find no trace of any one by the name of Flynn missing at that place.

31. SAM RULL.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Creek. Signed name as "S. Hull." Shipped from inland Employment Agency. Spokane, Aug. 16th. Signed roll Aug. 15th. No clue as to his identity.

32. L. JOHNSON.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Creek. Shipped from Lyons Employment office, Spokane, Washington, Aug. 16, 1910. No clue as to his identity.

33. EDWARD FRYE.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Creek. Signed at Inland Empire Employment office at Spokane, Washington, on Aug. 15, 1910. Shipped to Pocono, Idaho. Signed name as "Ed Frye." No clue as to identity.

34. JOHN HOUS.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Creek. Shipped Aug. 16th from Lyone Employment Agency, Spokane, Washington, to Pocono, Idaho. No clue as to his identity.

35. HARRY SMITH.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Creek. Signed with Inland Empire Employment office on Aug. 15, 1910. Shipped Aug. 16, 1910. No clue as to identity.

36. JOE DENTON.

Address Upland, Pa. Buried on Big Creek. Signed with Inland Empire Employment Agency, Spokane, Washington, and shipped to Pocono, Aug. 16th. Father lives at Upland, Pa. Father communicated with at Upland, Pa., and uncle at Seattle. Father James Denton, Sr., Upland, Pa.

James Denton, Sr., father, paid \$15.00, amount due in this case, by voucher No. 1189.

37. J. STEVENG.

Address unknown. Buried on Big greek. Shipped from Spokane Aug. 13, to Pocomo, via C. M. & P. C. Ry. Signed employment statement as "James Stevens." No clue as to this man's identity.

38. J. HARP.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Creek. Signed from Spokane, Washington, Aug. 15, 1910. Shipped Aug. 16, 1910 from Inland Empire Employment Agency. Signed as "John J. Harp." Wrote to post master, Klama, Washington, but

D. F. - 35.

postmaster says he is not known in that vicinity.

39. CHRIS CHRISTIANSON.

Address unknown. Shipped from Lyons Employment Agency, Spokane, Washington, Aug. 16, 1910. Shipped to Pocono, Idaho. Buried on Big Creek. No clue as to identity.

40. JAMES DENTON.

Address Upland, Pa. Buried on Big Creek. Signed with Inland Empire Employment Agency, Spokane, Aug. 15th. Shipped Aug. 16th to Pocono, Idaho. Father communicated with at Upland, Pa. Father James Denton, Sr.

Father paid \$15.00, amount due, by voucher No. 1189.
41. GLENN TAYLOR.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Creek. Shipped from Inland Empire Employment Agency, Spokane, Washington, Aug.

16th. Signed Aug. 15th, as "G. E. Taylor." No clue as to his identity.

Time.

Aug. 16 - 10 hours

17 - 10 hours

18 - 16

19 - 12

20 - 12

60 hours, \$15.00 amount due.

42. K. AUDERSON.

Address unknown. Buried on Big Greek. Shipped from Inland Empire Employment Agency, Aug. 16th to Pecone, Idaho. Signed as "H. Anderson." No clue as to identity.

Time.

17 - 10
13 - 16
19 - 12
20 - 12
60 hours, \$15.00 amount due.

43. E. SMITH.

Spekane, Washington. Buried on Big Creek. Shipped Aug. 16th to Pocone, Idahe. Employed at Inland Empire Employment office at Spokane. Signed roll as E. Smith. Mrs. D. W. Smith, Spokane, Washington, Mother. Gen. Delivery. Was one of those formerly reported as name unknown, and unidentified. Was identified by a picture sent by his mother. Time not known, but presumably same as others. He was given time slip at noon, Aug. 20th, with two others, and started for Wallace, but never reached Wallace. Time keeper with records burned. Had coming perhaps \$15.00 for time as follows:

Aug. 16 - 10 17 - 10 18 - 16 19 - 12

20 - 12 60 hours, \$15.00.

44. UNIDENTIFIED MAN, NAME UNKNOWN.

Buried on Big Creek. No clue to identity.

45. UNIDENTIFIED MAN, NAME UNKNOWN.

Buried on Big Creek. No clue as to identity.

46. UNIDENTIFIED HAN, HAME UNKNOWN.

Buried on Big Creek. No clue as to this man's identity.

BIG CREEK FIRE

J. W. Bell's Crew.

47. UPTON B. SMITH.

Address Mansfield, Ohio. Body shipped to father. Father W. R. Smith, 229 West 3rd St., Mansfield, Ohio. Killed by falling tree at Joseph Beauchamp's cabin. Father communicated with.

Time.	•									
July	້າລອ 30 31 2 3		12	•	13 14 15 16 17 18		12 12 12 12 12			
			12		_		12			
	_		12			7	270	hours,	\$67.50	due.
	7	-	12							
	_		12	Amount	t ps	aid	l to	father	r·•	
	9	-	12		_				•	
	10	-	12							
	11	-	12							
	12	-	12							

48. GEORGE W. CAMERON.

With Bell's crew on Big Creek. Father lives in Nova Scotia; consulted. Killed by Falling tree at Joe Beauchamp's cabin.

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Time
July 24 - 11 hours
      25 - 17
      26 - 11
      29 -
      සුප
         - 15
      29
         - 16
      30
         - 15
      31
          - 13
Aug.
       1
         - 12
        5
       €
          - 12
        8
0
      10
            12
         - 12
      11
      12 - 12
      13
         - 12
      14
          - 12
      15
         - 12
      16
         - 14
      17 - 14
      18 - 14
      19 - 14
      20 - 14
           537 hours, $84.25 amount due.
```

This amount paid to Edwin C. Moore, Box 264, Kellogg, Idaho, who had power of attorney, etc., from father of George W. Cameron, Archibald Cameron, of Waugh's River, County of Colchester and Province of Nova Scotia. Voucher No. 627.

D. F. - 39

49. GUECOMO VIETTONE or GIACOMO VIETTENE, or JENE VIETTONE.

With Bell's crew on Big Creek. Friends found. Time book gives name as "V. Attne." Belongs to Masonic Lodge, Horenci, Frizons. Hore in Revaria, Italy, Conovasa.

The following information from L. J. Owen, Sec. of Corinthian Lodge A. F. & A. M. #18, Morenci, Ariz.:

Age 29 years. Father died about Feb. 28, 1911.

Mother, two sisters and one brother in Italy. Boni Rivara Canonese, Province de Tonino, Italy. Father before dying had written to br. Jim Marietta of Morenci, Arizona, asking him if he would get anything from the boy's insurance or the U.S. Government, and Marietta wrote an Italian Consul.

Another report; Belonged to an Italian insurance order at Morenci, Arizona, also to Italian Maconic order (Singular) and owns an interest in their building to the amount of \$107.00. It is not known whether or not the insurance has been paid to the heirs or executors, the amount of which cannot be over \$300.00 or less than \$100.

Dominick Rivar of Wallace, Ida., has informed us that Ellena Viettone, Mivara, Canavese, Italy, is the mother of Guecomo Viettone. We have sent voucher and affidavit to Italian Consul at Denver, Colorado, requesting him to obtain signature of mother.

50. DOMINICK BRUNO.

Boni Rivara, Canavese, Province de Torino, Italy, has an uncle, Guiseppi Bruno, in Globe, Arizona, and working on a chicken ranch. Information from L. J. Owen, Sec. Corinthian Lodge, #18, A.F.& A.M. Wrote to Guiseppi Bruno, Globe, Arizona, and letter was returned.

Dominick River of Wallace, Idaho, has informed us that Andrea Brune, Rivera, Canavese, Italy, is the father of Dominick Brune. We have sent voucher and affidavit to Italian Consul at Denver, Colorado, requesting him to obtain signature of father.

Time.

Aug. 4 - 10 hours
5 - 11
6 - 11
7 - 10
8 - 10
9 - 11
10 - 13
11 - 11
12 - 11
13 - 11
14 - 12
15 - 12
16 - 12
17 - 12
18 - 12
19 - 12
19 - 12
19 - 12
19 - 12
19 - 12
19 - 12

51. W. J. ELLIOTT.

with Bell's crew on Big Creek. Father Daniel Elliott, Salemville, Chio. Earl E. Elliott, brother, P. C. Box 222, Pasco, Washington. These persons have been communicated with. Killed by falling tree at Joe Beauchamp's cabin.

D. F. - 41.

He lived for a time after being injured.

This amount paid to father, Daniel Elliott. Voucher No. 1198.

52. JOSEPH BEAUCHAMP.

Address, Wallace, Idaho. Wife found. Homesteader on Big Creek. Not working for government at time of fire.

Above paid to Benj. Chainey as administrator. Vo. 627. 53. RODERICK A. AMES.

Buried by brothers. Homesteader on Big Creek. Not working for Government at this time.

54. TONY BUTCHER.

Name also given as Tony Boucher. With Bell's crew on Big Creek. Final naturalization papers taken out at Evelith, Minn. First papers taken out at U. S. Circuit

(

Court, 5th division. Came to this country in Sept., 1894. Was then 25 years old. Was an Austrian. Address of his mother, Mrs. Theresa Bucar, Velike, Pejce, Seutvid, Dol-injsko, Krain, Austria.

```
Time.

Aug. 2 - 12 hours

3 - 12

4 - 13

5 - 12

6 - 12

9 - 12

11 - 12

12 - 12

13 - 12

14 - 12

15 - 12

16 - 12

17 - 10

18 - 12

19 - 12

213 hours, $54.00 amount due.
```

Voucher and affidavit cons to mother, Mrs. Perezijo Bucar, Velike Pojce, Sentvid, Dolenjako, Krzin, Austria, Europe, for execution and return to this office, when they will be forwarded to Fiscal Agent for payment.

55. CHRIS OMICO.

No friends known. With Bell's crew on Big Greek.

Buried on Big Greek. Wrote to E. W. Allen, Gen. Del.,

Spokane, Washington, March 18th, who claims to have known
this party. Signod name as Charles Omiso, address not
known. Thought to be a wanderer. Mas certificate of
deposit #3215 for \$300.00 issued by Bank of Athens, at
Athens, Wisconsin. Also had savings deposit book #1410

1

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Time.
     2 - 6 hours
     3 - 20
     4 - 16
     5 - 16
     6 - 16
     7 - 12
     9 - 15
    10 - 12
    11 - 12
    12 - 12
    13 - 12
       - 12
    15 - 12
    17 - 18
    18 - 16
    19 - 12
    20 - 30
         249 hours, $62.25 amount due.
```

57. WA. LEARMOURH.

with Boll's crew on Dig Greek. Friends found in Winnipeg, Canada: Buried at Wallace, Idaho, in cemetery.

Died in tunnel with Pulashi's crew. Wrote J. C. McRae,
Chief Constable, Winnipeg, Canada. Andrew Learmouth,
Carter Ave., Winnipeg, Canada. Employed by Fouthers one
Employment Office, Spokane, Aug. 5, 1910. Mether and father
in Winnipeg, Canada. Eas two brothers.

```
Time.9 12
Aug. 8 - 10 hours

7 - 10
8 - 12
11 - 12
13 - 13
14 - 13
15 - 12
16 - 12
17 - 12
18 - 12
19 - 12
20 - 12 154 hours, $58.50 amount due.
```

Paid to Archi. Learmonth, c/o Andrew Learmonth, 993 Carter Avenue, Winnipeg, Canada. Vouchor No. 1279.

issued in name of Charles Omiso, Cranbrook, B. C., in the Dominion Bank, Calgary, Alberta. Wrote to Mayor of Cranbrook, but no reply. Different names given are,

Charles Omerso Karl Omersa Charles Omer Karl Omers Chas. Omeso.

Time . Aug. 2 - 6 hours 3 - 20 4 - 16 5 - 16 6 - 147 - 12 8 - 14 9 - 12 10 - 10 11 - 12 12 - 12 13 - 12 14 - 12 15 - 12 16 - 1217 - 2418 - 12 19 - 12 20 - 12 254 hours, \$65.50 8.00 paid. \$55.50

BIG OREEK FIRE.

Pulaski's Crew.

56. C. BUCK.

With Bell's crew on Big Creek. Not positively identified. Died in Pulaski tunnel. No clue as to identity.

58. - JOE FERN.

Died in tunnel with Pulaski's crew. Buried in cemetery at Wallace, Idaho. Partner of Wm. Learmouth. Slender build, dark hair, dark complection. May be from Bay City, Mich. Wrote Mayor of Bay City, but received no reply.

Shipped Aug. 5th from Spokane, by Featherstone Employment Agency. Buried Aug. 30, Wallace, Idaho. Smooth shaven, weight 185 pounds, height 5 ft. 6 1/2 inches, age about 26 years. Have been unable to get a clue as to this man's identity.

```
Time.
Aug. 6 - 10 hours
     7 - 10
       - 12
     8
     9
       - 12
    10
       - 12
    11
    12
       - 12
    13
       - 13
       - 13
    15 - 12
    16 - 12
    17 - 12
    18 - 12
    19 - 12
        178 hours, $44.50 emount due.
```

59. HARRY HANSON.

Died in tunnel with Pulaski's craw. Body shipped Aug. 24th by Rorim, Wiscensin, for burial. Mother of Harry Hanson is Ers. D. C. Hanson, 1212 State St., Racine Wiscensin. Affidavit and voucher sent to Ers. Hanson June 22, 1911.

pecting.

Time. Aug. 6 - 10 hours 7 - 10 8 - 12 9 - 12 10 - 12 11 - 12 - 19 12 13 - 12 14 15 - 15 16 - 1217 - 12 18 - 13 19 - 12 20 - 12 176 hours, \$44.00 amount due.

60. RICHARD WOODS.

Unidentified. An cla prospector buried at Wallace in compter. Was with Pulaski's craw, but was caught by the fire and periahed within a few hundred feet of the tunnel. Height 5 lt., 5 1/2 inches. Weight 105 pounds. Light brown hair, sprinkled with gray. Landy mustache. About 50 years old. We wrote 3. 3. Johnston, Scattle, Washington, who was supposed to have known this man, but received no reply. Mr. Woods spent a great deal of his time in the Salmon River country of contacts Idaho, pros-

61. LOUIS THONIM.

Unidentified. Died in tunnel with Pulaski's crew. Buried in cometery at Wallace, Idaho.

62. AUGUST BERGER.

Address unknown. Burica in cemetery at Wallace, Idaho. Died in tunnel with Pulaski's crew. Had white hair.

Time.					
Aug. 2	- 6				
3	- 12				
	- 12				
	- 12				
6	- 12				
	- 12				
8	- 12				
9	- 12				
10	- 12				
11	- 12				
	- 12				
13	- 12				
	- 12				
	- 12				
	- 12				
	- 12				
	- 12				
	- 12				
20	- 12		Acc 50		. د دولاد
	222	hours,	্ট্55∙50	amount	aue.

STEVENS PEAK FIRE. Danielson's Crew.

63. WALTER BEAMAIR. PLONNES

Burned on Boulder Creek above Mullan. In Danielson's drew. Body taken by father, J. M. Bernair, of Sunset, Washington.

BULLION MINE FIRE.

S. M. Taylor's Crow.

64. VAL NICHOLSON.

Address Gem, Idaho. Buried by father at Gem, Idaho. Died in Bullion tunnel. Effects, \$2.65, diary, 25 calibor Colts Auto revolver. Turned over to father at Gem, Idaho.

Amount paid to his father at Gom, Idaho, woucher 534. 65. LARRY RYSON.

Died in Bullion tunnel. Buried by friends at Wallace, Idaho. Effects, one Elgin Watch, nickel or silveroid, one gold ring with 3 garnets, 2 pocket knives, 2 letters from

5

Supt. Bullion mine. Had many friends in vicinity of Wallace. Was a miner. Estate now in hands of probate judge, Lawrence E. Worstell, Wallace, Idaho.

> Time. 7 - 14 hours Aug. 8 - 149 - 1410 - 1411 - 14 12 - 14 13 - 14 14 - 14 15 - 1416 - 1417 - 1418 - 14 19 - 14 20 - 121/5194 1/5 hours, \$48.55 due.

Amount paid to Kathrym O'Rourke, administrator of estate of Larry Ryson, decoased, see voucher No. 1213.

65. LESLIE ZELLARC.

Died in Dullion tunnel. Buried by father at Gem, Idaho. Effects, 3 empty posket books, 1 posrl handled knife, \$2.25 in pocket. Turned over to father.

Time . Aug. 5 - 12 hours 6 - 127 - 128 - 12 9 - 12 10 - 12 11 - 18 12 - 12 13 - 18 14 -5 16 - 1317 - 1618 - 1419 - 24 20 - 14 206 hours, \$51.50 amount due. D. F. - 50.

67. S. D. ADAMS.

Voucher in favor of I. L. Zellars, father, at Gem, Idaho, submitted to Fiscal Agent for payment. Vo. 1106.

Died in Bullion tunnel. Friend at 167 Institute Place, Chicago, Ill. Mother in Persia. Wrote A Lafetim at 167 Institute place, Chicago, and had reply. Second letter addressed to Lafetim returned unclaimed.

Effects, leather purse with papers, papers with his time in snap pocket book. Letter from 167 Institute Place, Chicago, Ill. Empty pocket book, three snaps. Safety razor.

Aug. 6 - 5 hours
7 - 12
3 - 18
9 - 12
10 - 18
11 - 18
12 - 18
13 - 16
14 - 15
15 - 12
16 - 12
17 - 12
18 - 19
19 - 16
20 - 15
218 hours, \$54.50 amount due.

68. Aaron BENTON.

Address Hillsdale, Wisconsin. Died in Bullion tunnel. Buried at Wallace, Idaho. Identified by Mrs. Aaron Bonson, Wife of Aron Benson, Hillsdale, Wisconsin. Voucher and affidavit executed by Mrs. Cora Benston at Hillsdale, Wisconsin forwarded to Fiscal Agent for payment of amount due. Voucher No. 1888.

```
6 -
      5 hours
 7 - 12
 8 - 12
 9 - 12
10 - 12
      12
      16
13 - 15
14 - 12
15
16 - 12
17 - 16
18 - 15
19 - 15
20 <u>- 12</u>
    192 hours, $48.00 amount due.
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60. LOUIS HOLLES.

Address Birmingham, England. Mr. Holmes had a photograph of a lady in his pocket with the address upon the same of Mrs. Lewis, Portsea House, Sezella, Birmingham, England. By writing to Mrs. Lewis we learned that she was his mother, and a voucher and affidavit have been sent to Mrs. Lewis, Portsea House, 206 Lazella Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, England for execution. Payment will be made to Mrs. Holmes as soon as the voucher is returned.

```
TIME.

Aug. 12 - 8 hours

13 - 16

14 - 16

15 - 18

16 - 18

17 - 18

18 - 18

19 - 18

20 - 18

148 hours, $36.50 arount due.
```

70. THOMAS WELCH.

Address Spokano, Washington. No friends. Died in

Eullion tunnel. Euried at Wallace, Idaho.

Effects, I pocket kmife, 70 \$5.00 bills, 3 \$10.00 bills, 1

\$20.00 bill. Shipped by Featherstone Employment Agency,

Spokano, Washington, as Thos. Welch, on August 11, 1910,

to Wallace, Idaho. Unable to locate him in Spokane, or any

friends or relatives. No clue as to identity.

71. ERHEST ELCIN.

Died in Bullion tunnel. Buried in Wallace, Idaho.

Telegram from Kate D. Savage doted Aug. 5, 1910, from Globe,

Arizona, was found in hispocket. We corresponded with Mrs.

Kado D. Savage later at Phoenim, Arizona, who states that

she was merely a friend of Mr. Elgin. It appears that

Mrs. Savage never heard him make any remarks about the lo
cation of hispeople.

AVERY FIRE

W. H. Rock's Crew.

72. OSGAR WEIGERT.

Montana. Effects, consisting of clothes, cartridges, gun tebacco, eigarette papers, etc., sent to his mother, Mrs. Weigert, at Missoula. Amount due paid to his mother. Mrs. Weigert, apparently thinking that he would be burned to death, committed suicide on the evening of the big fire. The crew Mr. Weigert was with, however, had ample reason to feel that they were in absolute safety, owing to the fact that they were on an area which had received a very hard burn the day before.

The men referred to in this report, although directly supervised by the man in charge of the crew, were all indirectly under my supervision, and up to August 20 and 21, when the great conflagration took place, I was in direct communication with these men either by telephone or messenger every day.

put out the numerous forest fires in the region. Their duties were to clean off a fire line about eight feet wide by an advance crew cutting the brush, followed by a crew with mattocks and snovels who would dig off the surface so that the mineral soil would be exposed. This line was always made sufficiently far in advance of the main fire to enable the men in charge to back fire from this fire line so that a space would be burned sufficiently wide between the fire line constructed and the main fire to stop the progress of the advancing fire when it reached this burned space. This system is usually very effective and would have been in this case had it not been for the abnormal conditions.

A camp isalways established within a reasonable distance of the fire, so that the men from different parts of the line can reach the camp at meal time and in the evening. If conditions are such that it is too far from the camp to where the men are working, provisions are cooked and packed in pails to where the men are working. If water is too far distant canvas bags in connection with pack

D. F. - 55.

horses are used to carry water to the men.

There are no claims against the Government at the present time for the death of any of the men who perished on August 20 and 21, 1910, with the exception of the amounts due the men for labor at the time of their death, and in very few cases has this been requested, but we have done everything in our power to learn the location of the friends of these men so that the amount due them might be turned over to the proper parties.

I am horewith enclosing a map of the Coour d'Alene National Forest showing the location where the men perished, and a few photographs to illustrate the severity of the wind and fire.

Very truly yours,

Forest Supervisor.