

2-100041

COLLIERY DISASTER.

Picture:- One-thousand feet below this pit head, a formidable--

--battle with death is being fought. Following a mystery explosion--

--in the pit workings, fourteen miners have been trapped by--

--a fall of the gallery roof. Anxious relatives and friends of the entombed--

--men gather at the shaft--

--head, waiting news from the returning rescue party. The tragic death of fourteen men is recounted, poisoned by--

--deadly after-damp. Their bodies lie in this temporary mortuary.

Eleven wives have to-day been widowed, and many children rendered--

--fatherless. Plunged in deep sorrow they are sent back to homes which will be strangely--

--empty. It's a tragic coincidence that on this day of disaster--

--a thirty-thousand pounds Lancashire and Cheshire coal owners--

--mines rescue station was opened by the Earl--

--of Crawford and Balcarres. For--

--meeting underground emergencies, this station is the most--

--efficiently equipped in the world. Canaries are used for locating gas.

In a second the watchman on duty here can--

--with one movement of a switch call the rescue party--

--in their homes and set all rescue devices in motion--

--for immediate use. In a matter of seconds help can--

--be sent to any point in the adjacent coalfields.