

THIRTEEN KILLED IN TERRIFIC EXPLOSION

**Many Charges of Dynamite
Were Set Off Without
Any Warning.**

**MEN CAUGHT IN
DEEP TRENCH.**

**Accident Occurred on C.N.
R. Construction at
Rainy Lake.**

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)

Fort Frances, Feb. 9.—Twelve men were killed outright, another has since died, and five more are frightfully injured as the result of an explosion of dynamite at the construction works of Carey & Johnson, contractors for the Canadian Northern on an island in Rainy Lake, eight miles east of here.

The explosion occurred just before noon, and is believed to have been caused when a badly placed charge in one of a series of 64 holes of a uniform depth of 22 feet was being drawn, so that a new charge could be properly placed.

Hurled High in Air.

Thos. Casey, foreman of the gang, was hurled 150 feet in the air, and his mangled and dismembered body was found near the Canadian Northern tracks. All of the other victims were foreigners, Austrians and Bulgarians, and none of their names were yet available at a late hour to-night. Several other men are said to be missing, and it is regarded as quite possible that the list of dead may be added to when the work of searching for the bodies is completed.

Five Tons of Dynamite.

Stories told by survivors of the explosion are more or less unintelligible, but it is certain that the explosion of the first hole caused all the others to explode almost simultaneously. The amount of dynamite exploded is held at over 200 bolts, or about five tons. The terrific concussion heaved hundreds of tons of rock in all directions, and the men working in the solid rock cut who were not killed in the first concussion of the explosion were burned or battered to pieces by the falling rock as it settled. Pieces of solid rock half the size of a small house were upheaved.

Bridging a Lake.

A unique piece of engineering, being the construction of a rock fill for a distance of three miles through Rainy Lake was the work upon which the unfortunate men were employed.

The C. N. R. at present are crossing the lake on a trestle bridge, but realizing the necessity of a permanent roadbed, a contract was let to Johnstone & Carey for the construction of a roadbed from a point four or five miles east of Fort Frances clear across the lake, utilizing the numerous islands as anchorage. The contractors have been working practically the whole of 1911 on this stupendous engineering feat, and the work has been pushed for nearly two miles.

This is the first work of the kind done in Canada, and some of the dumping contrivances are absolutely unique in the history of engineering.

By utilizing a floating bridge, consisting of three pontoons, and a set of rails with no bottom, the work has been rapidly pushed.

While no word of the accident has yet reached the C. N. R. offices here, as the work is under the jurisdiction of the Winnipeg division, it is supposed that the men were quarrying when the premature explosion of the charges hurled them to death.