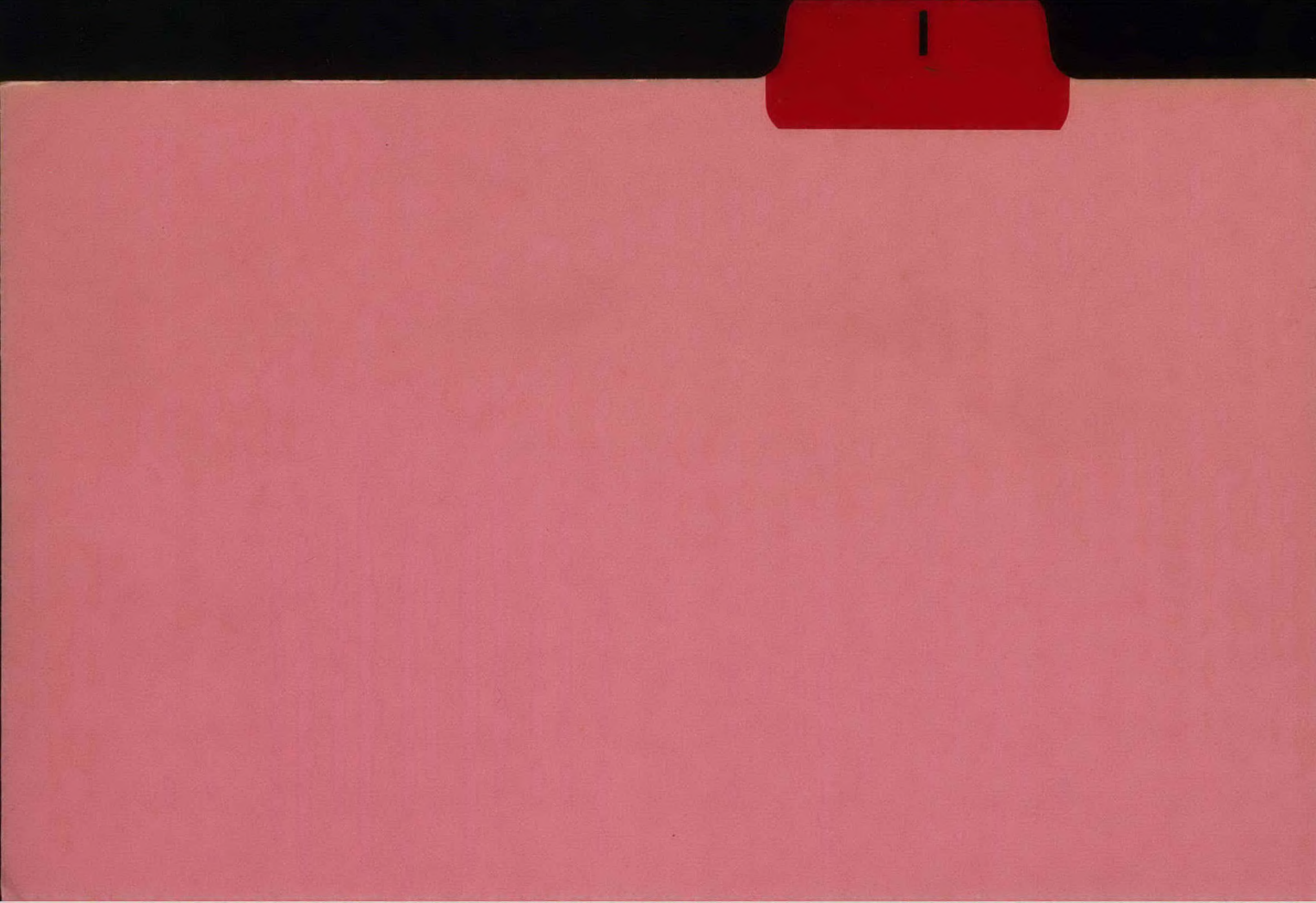


A3424 / Bl. 45.1



IGNORANCE

GOVT: IGNOR-  
ANCE

the gold mines, therefore it was not out of place that the Senate should devote some of its time to so important a question.

It was shortly after the war, when the mines were being reconstructed, that public attention was first directed to the disease. It would appear that before the war rock drilling had not developed to any great extent, but when the men came to be re-appointed they were found, in many cases, to be suffering from the disease. In 1903 a report was issued which threw a deal of light upon the question. But it occurred in this case as it did in so many other instances, the public and the mines did not recognise the seriousness of the disease, and it was only in later years that the disease had been brought home to the authorities, and that its terrible ravages were revealed. An attempt was made in the first Union Parliament to deal with the question, but it was found that sufficient information was not before them to enable the House to deal adequately with the subject, and a temporary measure was passed dealing with urgent cases. It had been found that 33 per cent. of the 11,000 white miners employed on the Rand were affected by the disease in one stage or other. The question arose: How were they to deal with it? The Government had introduced a Bill in another place, which had been sent to a Select Committee, and the report of that committee was before them. He would endeavour to briefly outline the main points of the Bill.

The first question they had to ask was, who was going to benefit under the Bill? The white miner was the first to be dealt with, and the definition of a white miner was one who worked underground. The second class of men dealt with was the native labourer, and his case was provided for in clause 30 of the Bill. The third class was the intermediate worker, who did not fall under the term miner, and he was dealt with in clause 22.

The second point was, what benefits will be given to these men, and from where would the funds be obtained? The general idea was an insurance fund would be formed, contributed to by the owners and men. But it was felt that it would be rather hard to compel men in the last stages of the disease to contribute, and it was decided to have two funds, namely, a compensation fund and an insurance fund. The compensation fund would be started at once, for which the money would be derived from mine owners and the Government. The contemplated amount of that fund is placed at £1,100,000, and of that amount the Government will contribute £100,000 and the mines would have to find the other million. But that amount would not have to be found immediately. The £100,000 will be put into the fund at once, and would be used in the case of a poor mine which could not pay its contribution without placing itself in difficulties, as might happen in the case of a mine which could only afford to pay £300 and

UNION SENATE DEBATES, 1912.  
Malan, 2nd Reading, col 755, 756

Importance not recognised Malan

1912.

their contribution might be £400. The £100 deficiency would be made up from the Government contribution, and in this way two purposes would be served. The miners working in that mine would be assisted in obtaining the benefits of the Bill, while probably the mine would be kept from closing down. The contributions from the mines would be spread over a period of at least five years. The insurance fund would be started at once, but they would not draw upon that fund until after two years. For the first two years all claims would be paid out of the compensation fund. The insurance fund would be built up by the mine owners, who would have to contribute 5 per cent. of the earnings of underground workers. Of this amount the mine owners would be entitled to deduct  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. from the wages of the men. This would amount to about £110,000 per annum, which, together with the owners' contributions, would make £220,000 at the end of the first year, and at the end of the second year £440,000. When the claims would be stopped for the compensation fund, two years after the passing of the Act, the companies would have to pay  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., but they could deduct  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. from that, so that two years after the passing of the Act there would be £220,000.

That was provided the disease was as prevalent as to-day. Provision was made in the Bill that if it was found by actuarial calculation that the disease had diminished, and that not so many claims were coming forward, then the amount would be reduced in proportion. They would be reduced on the law of averages. They would not say to one particular mine that they would have to pay less. The reduction was made in proportion to the number of white workers underground. Now, as to the benefits. The white miner would get, if he was in the first stage of the disease—that was to say, if he was not totally incapacitated for his work—£8 per month for twelve months. The object of this £100 being given to him was for the purpose of enabling him to look out for some other employment. They had it that a man who left the atmosphere of the mines and went to some other part of the world—if the disease was in an advanced stage recovery was out of the question—and if the men lived healthy lives, and were careful of their health generally, there was no reason why they should not continue to be useful citizens for a great many years. Then they had the second class of miners: the man who was seriously affected by this disease; whose life, on the average, was only from eighteen months to two years. And, according to the conditions which prevailed on the Rand, they were of a comparatively young age, and the average life of a man in the mines, underground, was about ten or twelve years. They proposed to give to the men in that class, or his dependants, an amount of £8 per month, not to exceed £400 in all. The Senate would see that, supposing 1,000 men came out during

Maken, 2nd reading, (col 756)

Compensation — earlier Smuts had chance for Comp? — ?

Transvaal leader, 6 Aug. 1910 "Gen. Smuts's Indiscretion"

Joneson debate. The general forget to tell the  
~~Doctor~~ mining community of the Rand why he and his  
party, having the majority in Parliament, did not ~~at~~  
deal with M.P. when they had the chance.

Ignorance -

Whiteside

Gout. Pleads.

- 1912

UNION SENATE DEBATES, 1912 17 June  
(vol 758)

Senator WHITESIDE said that he was not going to appeal to sentiment, throw stones, or make recriminations, but he was pleased to hear an acknowledgment from the Minister, and probably on behalf of the Government, that they recognised that that question of miners' phthisis had been before the country and Parliament for some considerable time. They had been accustomed to hear and read that there had been a considerable amount of ignorance existing, both on the part of the Government and the country, on that question, and it was satisfactory, even at that late stage, to hear that these statements which had been made were not altogether correct. He regretted that the Government had taken the particular line which they had in that direction, because it had been admitted in many speeches of members of the Government that that question of miners' phthisis would be dealt with in the first



IGNORANCE  
MINEOWNERS

Mineowners Challenge Tom Mann's figures - Play them today Mineowners' Farrar & J.G. Hamilton 1910.

Phthisis - Miners - life Span of 1910 - quoted by Mann & Home Office disputed  
(Transvaal header Labour Notes 30 April 1910)

'The party desires to have attention particularly drawn to the statements published by Mr Tom Mathews in reply to Sir George Farrar, Mr J.G. Hamilton and others who have disputed the veracity and the authority of Mr Tom Mann. Mr Mathews challenges Sir George to prove that Mr Mann's figures, taken from a Home Office report, are incorrect. The average working life of the miner who starts young on these Fields is under seven years; and the Home Office's statement, when published, was not denied by Sir George Farrar. This has been admitted by officials of the great groups, by health authorities, and others in a position of know, who themselves have picked up figures until their logic is overwhelming.

Ming People - protest ignorance - but known since 1903  
Moyamban Aug. 1910.

Transvaal headed, 27 Aug. 1910, letter F. J. Moyamban.

The mining people in general are protesting their ignorance as loudly as ever. When asked "What have you done with your brother?" they answer "We do not know; we are not our brother's keeper." Now, this answer is untrue. The mining people did know quite well.

As regards whites, they knew perfectly well six years ago what the state of affairs was from the evidence and report of the former Phthias Commission of about 1903.

As regards natives, much more important information than that contained in the report of the Regulations Commission was contained in the Native Affairs' Report, and in their own report - that of the Chamber of Mines. The mining houses have large organisations for collecting intelligence, and if they did not know what evidence had been given before the Regulations Commission before June, 1908, from their own intelligence departments, they could have got most of it from the newspapers. The sittings were public, and pretty fully reported. If in 1908 they did not know all that is known to-day, it is because they did not want to do so, or did not take the trouble.

They did know, then. They knew the "working costs," not only in money, but in life & suffering" - Blacks too.

~~Estimates~~ <sup>Estimates destined for Sanatorium</sup> 1906.

Phthisis & Numbers. 1906      Mines - most Groups -      Prevalence of acute cases p.a.

18 Jan. 1906. letter by Cowie & Groups return figures

(C. of M. File M. 3 b 1906 convalescent (Home) p. 1.

Group.	Average whites per mine <sup>hospitals</sup> per month.	No of discharged from mine hospitals per quarter	Approx no. to be sent to convalescent <sup>hous.</sup> p.a.
H. Eckstein & Co Central Adm <sup>n</sup> .	22.4	68.7	45
JHB. Consolidated Investment Co	10.00	30.0	72
Rand Mines Ltd	35	104	144
S Neumann & Co	7.2	24	21
A Goerz & Co	—	—	nil
Consolidated Gold Fields	33	99	36
General Mining & Finance	4	15	18
E.R.P.M	20	60	84
Sundry Cos	6	19	19
Total.	<u>137.6</u>	<u>419</u>	<u>489.</u>

Anglo French & Farrar don't reply

h. Phillips — Artificial ventilation mine's phthisis excuse 1907.

BRA HE file

134

S. Evans to F.

Eckstein

25

Feb. 1907.

IMPORTANCE  
OF  
INDUSTRY

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Mines - Impact on whole of S.A. Leggett.

1902.

(C.O.M. archives file W6(C), T.H. Leggett, to Sec (Gelding) C.O.M. 28 Aug. 1902.)

To my mind the vital question is to get this industry at work at the earliest possible moment, not only in order to meet the needs of the mining Companies themselves, but in order to help forward the whole country, for the present <sup>paralysation</sup> of the industry is unquestionably affecting the whole of South Africa.

S mts - "Gold greatest<sup>econ</sup> asset." J.M. 1906 comp.  
S mts to J.M. 2 June 1906.



Gold and the Welfare of the Country tied together.

1907.

TG2, 1908, p. 114 q. 959 ev. h. J. Reyerbach.

excellent quotation 1 shaft stops - Bolsburg chaps ...  
hotel - miners boarded there.

1906

Advancement of Mining Industry - means Advancement of S.A. - informed opinion knows (also

SA. Minis, Commerce & Industries, 2 June 1906, p. 253 (leading Article).

three colonies. The advancement of the mining industry means, to repeat a trite saying, the advancement of South Africa, and to object to this advancement because capital reaps its share of the resultant benefits is a view which severely reflects on the intelligence of its supporters, a view which happily has become largely discredited in South Africa in recent years. The Chinese, by expanding the mining industry and consequently trade markets through the sub-continent, have taught us a sound lesson in this direction, and there is no question that informed opinion in South Africa now warmly supports all fair and legitimate measures calculated to advance the mining industry.

Mines & Phthisis - Consolidated Gold Fields

(Chaplin's interest in Sanatorium.)  
Expenses - 1909.

cost improvement 1912.

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Favourable policies sought from govt - Welfare of country - low grade all mines -

Jeeves - Migratory labour, capitalism and the state - Kruger + Milner p 4

Country & people identify whole industry as a low grade one.

Army rides further.

not just crisis - permanent feature.

A more important device for stabilizing working costs was to seek favourable policies from the government. Through the Chamber of Mines and through the press which they controlled, the mine owners stressed from the beginning that the welfare of the state was dependent upon the health of the gold industry. More subtle was their effort to make the demands of the industry as a whole coincide with the needs of its weakest producers. The Randlords enjoyed considerable success in <sup>their</sup> efforts to promote the notion that the welfare of the entire industry was to be measured by the profitability or not of the low grade mines. <sup>12</sup> Whenever the profitability of of the low grade producers seemed to be threatened, mining spokesmen would trumpet that the whole industry was in crisis. At such moments -- and they tended

to be frequent -- the claim was usually also made that the prosperity and stability of Transvaal society was at stake: galloping unemployment and social instability in the white community and falling government revenues -- this was the spectre which was held up as the inevitable consequence of the failure to rescue the low grade mines. The effect of such propaganda was to identify the welfare of the industry and of the society as a whole with the maximization of output. Steady expansion usually involved mining ores of lower grade, and this in turn required lower costs. ]

Mining Industry - NB. of - Everyone in S.A. Transvaalers, S.A & P.E.A

J. of the C.M.M. Society, July 1905, p. 5, W. Cullen,  
Inaugural address.

dependent on it — July 1905.

I take it that the compliment you have paid me personally is also a compliment to that section of applied science <sup>Chemistry</sup> which is not directly connected with our paramount industry — mining. I say directly advisedly, but indirectly everyone of us is dependent on that great industry; I go further, and maintain that not only we, as Transvaalers, but the whole of South Africa, including even the Portuguese province is in precisely the same position.

Importance of Industry to whole country - 1910.  
low grade & prodn. levels.

RDM, 16 Aug. 1910, Editorial.

NB. of Mining Reg'n's Com'n. Report.

Everyone recognise the vast importance of the mining industry to South Africa. To-day practically the whole country depends on the mines. It is to the interest of everyone that the mines shd. prosper, and that their life should be prolonged as far as possible. But one wants to see the mines something more than profit earners. One wishes to see them supporting a large and healthy and contented white population. To-day the conditions are not all satisfactory.

Importance of G.M. Industry to Country - R.D.M. editorial.

Aug. 1910.

R.D.M. 6 Aug. 1910 Editorial.

Everyone recognizes the vast importance of the mining industry to South Africa. Today practically the whole country depends upon the mines. It is to the interest of everyone that the mines should prosper, and that their life should be prolonged as far as possible.



Creswell

Mining Industry - Most protected industry re labour arrangements - 1912.

R.D.H. 6 March 1912 'Parliament' 'White Labour Debate'

The Chamber of Mines urged the absurdity of protecting industries, but the mining industry was the most protected industry in the special legislation concerning its labour arrangements and the Govt. was helping it.

Doctors — Importance of Industry —  
J. Pratt Johnson.

1916.

p. 332. — J. Pratt Johnson.

The gold mining industry is the basis of the whole economic fabric of "South Africa".

Inseparably influenced. no independence

Importance of G.M. Industry. JXM - Parl. 1

May 1913.

H of A. Debates, 13 May 1913, col. 2379.

^ We are all inseparably influenced by this gigantic industry, on which the whole of the welfare of the country depends. We cannot form an independent opinion on matters connected with that industry.

Fable of the Goose that laid the Golden Eggs - cliché!

R.D.M. 24 September 1912.

Nov. 1913.

M.H.A - Barry on Mineowners a gold Industry - keep it going - but less strong

Barry to J.M. 10 Nov. 1913.

My hope is that we shall see the Mine Owners become less & less of a power in the land but we must aim at keeping them ~~strong~~ strong enough to sustain the industry for it would never do to believe that until we have established our other industry (agriculture)

INVISIBLE  
DEATHS

Invisible Deaths - Cornwall - according to COM. statement 600 1902.  
in Cornwall —

The Times, 13 Oct. 1902, letter Francis Fox, ex-memorandum —  
(Mining on the Road)

Miners' Phthisis Dependents - Poor Relief in Redruth

1906.

Man et, 14 April 1906, p. 1079<sup>c</sup> 'Western Counties Notes'.

*"Miners' Phthisis" in Cornwall.*

At a meeting of the Redruth board of guardians held on April 6th it was reported that there were 1415 paupers on the books of the guardians and that of this number 78 women (with 230 children dependent upon them) received relief in consequence of the death of their husbands from "miners' phthisis." It was stated that nine out of every ten cases of the disease had been contracted abroad and the returns showed that one-quarter of the pauperism of the Redruth union was due to "miners' phthisis."

85% according to M<sup>H</sup> Coombe.

JCMMS, p. 114 Oct 1906

'Safety Measures ...'

discussant.



Invisible Deaths -

Cornwall - Tin Miners

- 1905.

Lancet, 17 March 1906, p. 795 (Wales and Western Counties Notes).

Urban District of Camborne.

TB. deaths 1.4 per 1000 = Wales. + England

But. with incl. of miners 18 deaths. raised to 2.64 per 1000

Enforce Reg's - need for miners' cooperation.

Pass them in Td.

Mr. J. Telfer Thomas M.O.H.

a large :: abroad. Phthisis.

Cornwall - <sup>Camborne</sup> Miners Phthisis <sup>deaths</sup> since <sup>1899</sup> ~~1900~~ 25% ex Transvaalers. - MOH - 1913

(Lancet - March 21; 1914; p. 853)

Miners' Phthisis in Cornwall.

The M.O.H. for <sup>Bowhay</sup> Camborne rural district (Dr. A. Bowhay), in his annual report for 1913, states that during the past 14 yrs 25 per cent of the deaths from miners' phthisis had been in men who had previously worked in African mines.

Returned miners die at home.

Haldane - However healthy rock dwellers are when return home - die <sup>within</sup> year or two 1907.

(Lombard, 10 July 1913) 'Great Reto at Johannesburg'.

Haldane to Department Commee on Industrial Diseases 'However healthy a Transvaal rock drill man may appear to be on his return to his country, he will probably be dead within a year or two.'

Employers.

~~Miners~~ & Afs. 1905. — reg<sup>n</sup>. feeding etc  
See Evans.

Increased Penetration in Cornwall. — H.P.

(Cornubian 29 Aug. 1907)

— August — 1907.

Records in Cornwall. — Men back  
(Redruth). Separate of those in Tol.  
10 yrs. back 4/10 R.D. work  
died. — 1914.

cd. 7478, p. 204, ev. C & G. Hewitt.

25,086. Have you given particular attention to the dangers from dust? Have you made any observations about it yourself in Transvaal mining? You know that these mines have a fearfully bad reputation?—  
Quite so.

25,087. For instance, with regard to the men who come back to Cornwall, these cases are all inquired into?—Yes.

25,088. And the average for 10 years back has been about 4 to 5 years of rock drill work, of the men who died?—Yes. Of course, a lot depends on the men. I have had a lot of experience with it, shift bossing underground on the Randt, and I found it was chiefly due to the man's own laziness. He would not take the trouble.

Phthisis + Dependents 1909 in Redruth, Cornwall.

[Transvaal header Ticktin's ~~article~~ 9 ]

widows + orphans provided for by [Redruth Guardian  
of Poor Law ~~Guardian~~ lamenting increasing no of destitute widows  
& orphans.]

[~~See Phthisis History of to 1909 - Ticktin's material~~]

Transvaal header 14 Sept. 1909  
Thank D. Ticktin.

But it is impossible to estimate the extent of that exodus, and accurate data by which to interpret present conditions do not exist. Supposititious arguments on such a matter are of little value. It is probable, however, that while the general local death rate from disease amongst the mining community (including surface workers and neglecting those who leave the country to die elsewhere) is at present not really much higher than amongst other white males at the same ages, the local death rate from phthisis alone is amongst the former at least five times as high as in the latter, while the rate for non-respiratory diseases is decidedly lower. When, however, we remember that the majority of the deaths from phthisis occurs amongst a comparatively small section of the mining community, namely, the rock-drill miners, it is clear that the ratio of 5 to 1 by no means represents the actual disproportion in their particular case. This broad statement is the only one which the available data permit us to draw, and it quite harmonises with what is known regarding the rates of mortality in other mining communities.

But this statement does not take into account the drift of disabled men oversea from this Colony, and in estimating the influence of local conditions on the health of the mining population, we must make allowance for this factor. The necessity for doing so arises from the peculiarity of the Rand as a newly settled community. In older mining centres, such as Cornwall, if a man drops out of work disabled, he does not, in the great majority of instances, leave the district. He lives on and dies there, and his death is recorded as that of a miner and is placed against the mining population. Here this is not the case—a large number of our disabled men leave the country, and sooner or later die in other parts of the world.

J. of the C.M.S. Society

Dec. 1906, p. 172

'Safety Measures in Mining' Reply to Discussion

Macaulay & Irvine.

D Rate among miners of respiratory disease 5X higher  
Other rates lower than 5X rock drill miners.  
Mostly  
No records 1906 -  
Rough Estimate  
the invisible



Irvine -

Invisible Deaths

1908.

FR. MRC. <sup>1</sup>, 1910, v. 2, p. 234

between 20 and 65 years of age a disease death-rate of 19.6. The average age at death of miners dying of phthisis on the Rand was 39. He would like to point out, with reference to deaths of Transvaal miners in Cornwall and elsewhere abroad, that in the Redruth district of Cornwall during 1907 there had been 26 deaths of rock drill men who had never worked rock drills elsewhere than in the Transvaal. There would therefore be fully 40 such deaths, probably more, in Cornwall alone. Other cases were heard of in the mining districts of the North of England and elsewhere. Some no doubt died in Cape Colony, Australia, and America. It would thus appear that at least one-third and probably a greater proportion of disabled Rand miners left the country and died elsewhere. Rock

+ elsewhere =  $\frac{1}{3}$  or more.

Becker, Dr. J. G. resigns from S.A.I.H. A.

1919.

was on staff for 5 yrs. resigned  
practice in Stanton  
presentation with collection

(M.J. of S. A. - March 1919, p. 411)

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J. of the C.M.S. Society

Dec. 1906, p. 172

Safety Measures

in Mining, Reply to Discussion  
Macaulay & Irvine

Invisibles — Imposs. to Estimate  
Macaulay & Irvine don't buy

—1906

1913 Ske - Outhwaite - 300 per 1000 p.a. | Contradiction of Mines to S.A.

(West Briton 2 Aug. 1913)

Outhwaite says  $\$$  300 out of 1000 p.a die.

almost certain death to work a rock drill.

We in Cornwall know to our cost - M.P.

In the mining districts of the county hundreds of men after a brief period on the Rod have come home to die leaving, in many cases, widows & orphans to be provided for out of the rates.

Part mineowners

Part men.

Yrs. ago no provisions to prevent men breathing particles of rock.

Mineowners offer high premiums for rapid drilling  
men anxious to make progress neglect precautions.

$\pm \frac{1}{3}$

Statistics Unreliability of - Incapacitated - Go Home to die. 1910.

a large proportion of deaths of white miners due to mines is not credited to them and " at least  $\frac{1}{3}$  and probably more of disabbed

Rand miners leave and go to die elsewhere - Sure Afs.

(Final Report of Mining Regulations Com., 1910, p. 34, vol. 1.)

Phthisical Miners leave Wit.

— 1907.

Victims.

TG 2, 1908, p. 449, q. 4,929A ev. T. Matthews.

If a man, as a rule is dying of phthisis, he goes to his own home or to the coast or elsewhere, but outside the boundaries of the Transvaal.

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Invisible Deaths —

More than 5 to 1.  
Amongst Rock Drill Miners.

Macaulay & Irvine 1906.

I. of the CMM Society Dec. 1906, p. 172 'Safety Measures in Mining' Reply to Discussion

Invisible Deaths -

Cumberland - Cared for & healed  
by England. 2 April 1913.

Cd 7478, 1914, p. 201 ev. W. Dixon

24,989. What is the town you live in in Cumberland. Is it in Dalton or where?—Bigrigg is my address. It is in the centre of the Cleator district.

24,990. Is it a fact that a number of men who have got phthisis come back there from other countries?—That is so.

24,991. Where do they come from?—Johannesburg, South Africa.

24,992. I think the companies there give them a sum of money to last for a while, and send them home?

—Yes, up to within the last year or two numbers came back again probably slightly affected, and got work in the ordinary mines, and in the course of a few months or probably a year, as the case may be, phthisis developed and they very readily succumbed to it.

24,993. Always in searching out cases of miners' phthisis in England one ought to be careful to distinguish those cases which have really come from abroad, I suppose?—Undoubtedly that is so. Until recently, of course, we did not know what was the matter with them—until this last year or two. Now of course cases have so seriously developed that they can be at once detected, and within the last year or so the Government of South Africa or the mining people, I hear, are granting sums of money up to 400*l.* and clearing them out of the country. The result is that comparatively young men are coming in the last stage of miners' phthisis and in a few months or perhaps a few weeks they succumb entirely, and they are sending them home in batches from 12 up to 20 in the same steamer.

24,994. To be cared for and healed by England?—To be cared for and healed by England. They have no money and they will be kept at the expense of their friends while they are there.

[and]



Invisible Deaths — Braamfontein, Cumberland, Cornwall — 1910  
A Miner.

Tranvaal Herald 23 Aug. 1910, letter by 'A Miner'.

I am open to bet my next month's cheque that it is impossible to find anywhere 200 miners alive to-day who were mining on the Reef here before the war, and there are hundreds buried in Braamfontein and in Cornwall and Cumberland who only started mining here after 1901. Such a death-rate is a disgrace to the richest mining field in the world, and, coupled with the fact that on many mines men are brought out in debt month after month and have been chased away without a penny for their month's work, has kept away the best class of miner and given these fields the worst reputation in the world.

In last stages go home to die - ex-miner C. B. Saner.

1906.

J. of the CHM Society, Aug 1906, p. 44, Safety Measures in Mining Discussions.

~~Mr. C. B. Saner: Many miners who are in the last stage of phthisis go home to die. I know that before the war, out of 35 or 40 I was personally acquainted with, no less than 15 men died.~~

Invisible deaths - steady drift disabled miners - o/s.

1909.

There is [a] steady drift of disabled miners overseas many of whom escape inclusion in such record in so far as they have been accessible.

Transvaal header, 4 Sept. 1909 (I thank D. Ticktin.)

Miners Phthisis - Victims - leave in batches - 4-5. Need to work in a mine to know  
1906

J. of the CMM. Soc, Sept. 1906, p. 80 Safety Measures in Mining, Discussion, Mr. Morgan.

Mr. Morgan: There is no doubt that the death rate from miners' phthisis is very extensive, and one only needs to work on a mine to realise this. Many of the white miners leave this country to die at home; they go four and five at a time, all of them knowing that they have not long to live. This matter has caused me to give a great deal of attention to the question of a remedy, and I believe I can present to the community a respirator which will prove effectual, at all events, there are over a hundred practical men who recommend it.

The speaker here exhibited and explained a sample of his invention, saying that he hoped to have 100 sent out from England shortly.

Invisible Deaths -

85% of a Cornish parish - relatives of men  
died for MP. in S.A.

1906.

J. of the C.M.M. Society, Oct. 1906, p. 114, Safety Measures in Mining, Discussion  
R.H. Coombe, mines.

A few months back a Cornish  
paper published a statement, made by one of the  
Redruth parish overseers, that something like  
85 per cent. of the people chargeable on the rates  
of the parish were the relatives of men who had  
died of phthisis contracted on the Rand mines.  
And every mining village throughout the world  
that sends its quota of miners to the Rand has  
something of the same tale to tell. Old, middle-

Invisible Deaths. Redruth. Parish overseers 85% relatives of men died of phthisis 1906.

JCMMS, Oct 1906, 'Safety Measures in Mining' p. 114 M.H. Coombe.

A few months back a Cornish paper published a statistic made by one of the Redruth Parish overseers, that something like 85 per cent. of the people chargeable on the rates of the parish were the relatives of men who had died on phthisis contracted on the Redruth mines.

And every mining village throughout the world that sends its quota of miners to the Redruth has something of the same tale to tell.

Cornwall - Increased Pauperism in - death of bread winners 1907.

TG 2, 1908, p. 679, evidence R. J. Gleyas, statement.

I might report a case which appeared in the header [2 Aug]  
(The local Government Board Inspector under the Poor Law, speaking at Redruth this afternoon, referred to the increase of pauperism in Cornwall, and ascribed much of it to the fact that miners' plagues on the Rand was depriving many Cornish families of their breadwinners. He said that he hoped that the investigations on the Rand would lead to the discovery of methods of checking the disease effectively).

no doubt mining camps elsewhere resemble this tale.

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MINERS:  
DATA

Enclosure I.

STATEMENT SHOWING AVERAGE NUMBER OF MEN EMPLOYED ON THE MINES OF THE WITWATERSRAND AREA ON A PERCENTAGE BASIS.

(These figures are based on the figures shown in Annexure B attached to Statistics for the month of February, 1907, issued by the Mines Department, Transvaal.)

OCCUPATION OR TRADE.	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EMPLOYED.
Mine—	
Shift bosses .. .. .	1.841
Timbermen .. .. .	4.989
Pipemen .. .. .	.708
Platelayers .. .. .	.809
Banksmen and onsets .. .. .	3.654
Shovellers and trammers .. .. .	5.063
Pumpmen .. .. .	.897
Mine samplers .. .. .	1.389
Machine men, stoping .. .. .	9.385
"    developing .. .. .	6.324
Hand men, stoping .. .. .	10.275
"    developing .. .. .	1.962
Engine-drivers, underground .. .. .	.654
"    surface hauling .. .. .	4.039
"    compressors .. .. .	.903
Skipmen .. .. .	.479
Apprentices .. .. .	.560
Other mine employees not classified .. .. .	3.269
	<hr/> 57.200

% of Workmen - all workmen - all totals  
miners & surface etc

TG 11, 1908, p. 404, statement of A. of M.H. (H. Harg.)

Feb 1907

*Mill—*

Foremen .. .. .	406
Amalgamators .. .. .	1 982
„ assistants .. .. .	1 429
Mill greasers .. .. .	243
„ engine-drivers .. .. .	1 193
Engine greasers .. .. .	202
Vannermen .. .. .	135
Apprentices .. .. .	209
Tube-mill men .. .. .	512
Other mill hands not classified .. .. .	175

*Cyanide Works—*

Foremen .. .. .	290
Cyaniders .. .. .	2 030
Fillers and dischargers .. .. .	937
Apprentices .. .. .	572
Slimesmen .. .. .	418
Other cyanide hands not classified .. .. .	290

11 023

*Workshops—*

Foremen .. .. .	1 604
Fitters .. .. .	6 553
Riggers .. .. .	816
Handymen .. .. .	606
Boilersmiths .. .. .	1 429
Plumbers .. .. .	229
Shop enginemen .. .. .	33
Moulders .. .. .	135
Painters .. .. .	406
Masons .. .. .	1 200
Carpenters .. .. .	4 113
Smiths .. .. .	1 895
Drill sharpeners .. .. .	2 724
Electricians .. .. .	1 350
Apprentices .. .. .	1 807
Other workshop hands not classified .. .. .	249

25 149

*Sundry Surface Men—*

Overseers and crusher men .. .. .	1 140
Sorters .. .. .	—
Extractors .. .. .	—
Trammers .. .. .	310
Diamond drillers .. .. .	—
Weighbridge men .. .. .	33
Pump station men .. .. .	330
Firemen .. .. .	1 584
Police .. .. .	850
Mechanical haulage drivers .. .. .	149
Locomotive engine-drivers .. .. .	250
Unskilled labourers .. .. .	465
Other sundry employees not classified .. .. .	1 517

6 628

GRAND TOTAL ..

100 000

Miners 50% of U/G  
+ 10% specialist pitmen  
= 60%

$\frac{1}{5}$  of total white workforce.  
Chapter 5 Old Chapter 4.



Invisibles to be Cared for & Healed in England

2 April  
1913.

cd 7478, p. 201, ev. W. Dixon.

24,989. What is the town you live in in Cumberland. Is it in Dalton or where?—Biggig is my address. It is in the centre of the Cleator district.

24,990. Is it a fact that a number of men who have got phthisis come back there from other countries?—That is so.

24,291. Where do they come from?—Johannesburg, South Africa.

24,992. I think the companies there give them a sum of money to last for a while, and send them home?

—Yes, up to within the last year or two numbers came back again probably slightly affected, and got work in the ordinary mines, and in the course of a few months or probably a year, as the case may be, phthisis developed and they very readily succumbed to it.

24,993. Always in searching out cases of miners' phthisis in England one ought to be careful to distinguish those cases which have really come from abroad, I suppose?—Undoubtedly that is so. Until recently, of course, we did not know what was the matter with them—until this last year or two. Now of course cases have so seriously developed that they can be at once detected, and within the last year or so the Government of South Africa or the mining people, I hear, are granting sums of money up to 400*l.* and clearing them out of the country. The result is that comparatively young men are coming in the last stage of miners' phthisis and in a few months or perhaps a few weeks they succumb entirely, and they are sending them home in batches from 12 up to 20 in the same steamer.

24,994. To be cared for and healed by England?—To be cared for and healed by England. They have no money and they will be kept at the expense of their friends while they are there.

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