room on 13 butt?

A. About three times what I know.

Q. You remember three times?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know whether or not in butt 13 there was a lot of trouble about the air? Did the other fellows have trouble too?

A. I think so. I don't know the other rooms, but I am just talk about our room.

Q. That's all.

LOUIS FORMOS, having been first duly sworn, examined by Mr. Wilson testified as follows:

Q. Mr. Formos, you are a miner employed in the Imperial mine at Coalhurst?

A. Yes.

Q. And you were so employed on the 9th of December last?

A. Yes.

Q. How long have you been a miner?

A. About thirteen years.

Q. Thirteen years?

A. Yes.

Q. How long did you work in this mine?

A. Ten years.

Q. You were a partner of the last witness Andrew Kocej?

A. Yes.

Q. And you were working in the same room, No. 5?

A. Yes.

Q. On the full road?

A. Yes, full road.

Q. Did you leave the room at the same time he did?

A. Yes, but he is come back for his tools.

Q. You had worked all day with him, and you left the room at about the same time?

A. Yes, about the same time.

Q. And you went out on the full road?

A. Yes.

Q. Towards the shaft bottom?

A. Yes, full road.

Q. And were you ahead of him?

A. We left the room and walk about twenty-five feet from the room and my partner come back to the room again.

Q. Your partner came back to the room again?

A. Yes, to hide his boring machine, his tools.

Q. To do what?

A. He forgot to put his boring machine to a safe place, because that place was pretty bad inside.

Q. But when you left work that afternoon on December 9th did you go out in front of your partner?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you ahead of him going out?

A. Yes, I was.

Q. How far ahead of him?

A. I don't know. I was by the 4 butt west at that time. I don't know how far.

Q. You don't know how far you were ahead of him?

A. No.

Q. Do you know where you were when the explosion occurred? Do you know how far you had got out on the full road?

A. I was by the 4 butt west.

Q. 4 butt west?

A. Yes.

Q. That would be at this point here, 4 butt?

A. Yes.

Q. On the full road?

A. Yes.

Q. And you were about there when the blast hit you?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you knocked down?

A. Yes.

Q. Just tell us what happened?

A. Oh, just knock me down, and I get up again and start to walk.

Q. You were just knocked down and you were able to get up again?

A. Just for a second and get up again.

Q. Were you knocked unconscious? Were you knocked out?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you understand what I mean? Were you knocked out or were you just stunned? You say you were knocked down? You were able to get up again; you didn't lose consciousness?

A. No.

Q. And then you went out to the shaft bottom, did you?

A. Yes, right through.

Q. Did you go back into the mine again after that?

A. No.

Q. Were you burned at all?

A. No.

Q. Was there any flame that you noticed?

A. I just see sparks and dust.

Q. You just saw sparks?

A. Yes.

Q. And the air felt hot, did it?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you happen to know whether the haulage rope was running at the time the blast hit you?

A. Yes, it was running but at the same time it stopped.

Q. It was running at the same time the blast hit you, but stopped immediately afterwards?

A. Yes, at once.

Q. Did you notice anything unusual about the air conditions in your room that day?

A. The air wasn't very good, air pretty poor; maybe for somebody else was good but for me poor, sweating all the time.

Q. You say it wasn't very good?

A. No.

Q. Did you complain to the fire boss?

A. I was say "Not much air" but he say that room be finish, get another room tomorrow.

Q. You knew that the fire boss had made his morning inspection that morning?

A. Yes.

Q. You saw his initials on the room?

A. Saw his marks.

Q. Did you see him make any inspection that day?

A. No.

Q. He was in your room how many times?

A. Two times.

Q. Two times during the day?

A. Yes.

Q. You didn't see him make an inspection for gas?

A. No, I didn't see.

Q. Could he have made an inspection without your seeing him?

A. I don't know. I was pretty near all the time in the room.

Q. You weren't watching him all the time hewas in the room?

A. I was all the time in the room.

Q. You were watching him?

A. I never been any place.

Q. You were in the room all the time, and you can't, or can you say definitely whether he made an inspection or not on those two trips?

A. No, never made inspection; got safety lamp but never tested it.

Q. Do you know yourself whether he made a test or not on those two occasions, could you say that?

A. Well, I says no.

Q. You say no. Did you tell the fire boss that you didn't want to work that day?

A. No, I don't tell him.

Q. You weren't feeling well. Were you feeling sick?

A. I don't tell him I am not feeling good; I tell him not much air in this place, but I don't say I don't want to work.

Q. Did you feel fine or sick?

A. I wasn't feeling sick, but wasn't feeling sogood, sweat.

Q. Did you do a full day's work?

A. Yes.

Q. You did your ordinary day's work?

A. Yes.

Q. You didn't feel sick?

A. No, I wasn't feel sick, but I was just sweat.

Q. Just the same as any other day?

A. Yes.

Q. There is no coal dust in this mine, is there? There was no coal dust in the mine that day?

A. Coal dust? Sure, some coal dust was there.

Q. You know what I mean by that? This isn't a mine in which you get coal dust? There couldn't have been an explosion from coal dust that day? You don't understand that?

A. No, I don't understand.

Q. Had you occasion to go up to the airway crosscut that day at all?

A. No, I never been.

Q. Where the cars were being ~~taking~~ taken back and forth?

A. I never been there for five shifts.

Q. Had you ever been up there previously to that on any other shift?

A. No, I never been.

Q. So that you don't know anything about the door?

A. No.

Q. Had you ever seen any sparks from the signal wires?

A. No, don't see that.

Q. Or from the haulage rope that hauls the cars out?

A. No.

Q. Never seen any sparks?

A. No.

Q. All right. Did you have any trouble with your safety lamp?

A. No.

Q. Ever had it defective or the lid come off the box or anything of that kind?

A. No.

Cross-Examination by Mr. Shaw:

Q. Mr. Formos, do I understand from you that you felt sick that day?

A. Well, I been sick--I don't been sick. If I sick I can't work. I work but I feel bad.

Q. Feeling bad?

A. Yes.

Q. What made you feel bad, do you know? Were you sick when you went into the mine?

A. No.

Q. You were all right when you went into the mine?

A. Yes.

Q. Then you felt bad after that?

A. Yes.

Q. And then you say that you told the fire boss after there wasn't much air there?

A. Yes.

Q. You thought it was because of the air, is that the reason that you thought you were sick?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, how long have you been in Room 5?

A. Five days.

Q. Five days?

A. Yes.

Q. Where were you working before that?

A. I work in the Straight East.

Q. What?

A. Straight East. Another section.

Q. What butt, do you know?

A. I don't know what kind of butt, some kind, I can't tell you that. I work over there for seven days.

Q. You worked for seven days?

A. Yes.

Q. In the east?

A. West.

Q. West of where you were working on the day of the explosion?

A. Different parts of the section.

Q. I know it was different, but can you tell me where it was, what part of the mine were you in before?

A. Before it was called Second North or something like that, or Straight West.

Q. How did youfind the air there?

A. It was good air over there.

Q. Good air over there?

A. Yes.

Q. You had no trouble with the air there?

A. No.

Q. Did you make any complaint to the fire boss or pit boss there or anybody about that air?

A. No.

Q. I see. Then you were, before you worked in this place where you were on the day of the explosion, close to the shaft some

place?

A. Yes.

Q. Right close to the shaft?

A. Yes.

Q. I see.

MIKE RASKEVACH, having been first duly sworn, examined by Mr. Wilson testified as follows:

Q. Mr. Raskevach, you are employed in the Imperial Mine at Coalhurst?

A. Yes.

Q. And you were working there on December 9th last?

A. Yes, I did.

Q. What experience have you had as a miner?

A. As a miner loading coal.

Q. Huh?

A. Loading coal.

Q. How long have you been a miner?

A. About thirty years.

Q. About thirty years?

A. Yes.

Q. How long have you worked in this mine?

A. Close to ten years.

Q. At what point in the mine were you working on the day of the explosion?

A. What point?

Q. Yes?

A. Well, Third Southeast.

Q. What room?

A. No. 1 room.