

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

245 MARKET STREET

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

March 25, 1930.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 East Nineteenth Street,
New York City.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Mr. W. H. Cameron of the National Safety Council has asked me to furnish you with reliable incidents demonstrating super-sensitivity to impending danger. I can recall but one such incident:

This happened in a coal mine. The main haulage slope was practically level and extended some six miles underground. At right angles to this, planes were driven up the angle of the coal seam. At right angles to the plane, rooms were driven. A trip of 50 empty cars from the tippie were brought in from the outside and spotted on track A-A (see illustration). Hoist B handles the empty cars up and the loads down, the latter being spotted in the parting C-C. After 50 cars had assembled in C-C, an electric motor would hook onto the front end and take them to the outside.

Sometimes trouble was experienced in the parting, especially with cars jumping the track. If this trouble happened to be in the last ten-car trip, a D-D, the hoist B assisted in getting them back on. On one such occasion the cars had been put back on and just previous to unhooking cable at E, the motor, unknown to Mr. Doe, standing at F, hooked on and started to pull out. Mr. Doe sensed a movement in the trip, and through his acumen, dropped face down. He sensed that cars D-D would dump over and the hoisting cable would be pulled taut into the rib. The man at F undoubtedly would have been injured had he been standing up.

I hope this incident may be of interest and assistance.

Yours very truly,

S. S. Dickinson
S. S. Dickinson,
Safety Engineer.

SCD/B
cc-Mr. W. H. Cameron



