

Age (Melbourne, Vic. : 1854 - 1954), Friday 31 January 1941, page 8

EXPLOSION AT DEER PARK

Three Men Injured

HUT DEMOLISHED

An explosion, in which three men were injured, one of them critically, occurred at Deer Park at the works of Nobels (Australasia) Pty. Ltd. at 6 p.m. yesterday. Three men were extensively burned. The victims were:—

CRITICALLY INJURED.

OSWALD OPIE, 36 years, Ballarat-road, Deer Park, admitted to Royal Melbourne Hospital, second and third degree burns, on danger list.

INJURED.

CHARLES COPPING, 43 years, Bishop-road, Yarraville, admitted to Royal Melbourne Hospital, second degree burns.

RAY CLAYTON, Fitzroy-street, Footscray, second degree burns, admitted to Royal Melbourne Hospital.

The three men were working in a 20 feet by 30 feet hut granulating black powder when, from an unknown cause, an explosion occurred. The hut was demolished, and the three men had to be dragged from the burning debris.

Owing to the isolation system adopted at the works, and the assistance of safety mounds, no other part of the works was affected. Immediately the explosion occurred the guard turned out, and surrounded the works to prevent unauthorised intrusion. The Civil Ambulance took the injured men to hospital.

First aid was rendered by a member of the guard, and a local doctor was summoned.

The Chief Inspector of Explosives will open an official inquiry into the explosion as soon as an expert examination of the wrecked hut is made.

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