

CHARGE-MAN KILLED IN ARMS FACTORY EXPLOSION: FIRST MARIBYRNONG FATALITY

MELBOURNE, Thursday

When an explosion occurred in part of the fuse-filling shop at the explosives factory at Maribyrnong this afternoon, the senior charge-man was killed and two other men were injured.

The victims were:—

Dead

F. J. R. Newton (33), single, of Essendon.

Injured

W. A. Washington (24), single, of Port Melbourne, lacerations to right leg, right arm and left hand, and shock; admitted to hospital.

Edward Poulter (28), single, of Essendon, shock; admitted to hospital.

The explosion was confined to a limited area because of the system of confining filling items to small houses "bonded" by heavy earth walls. Little material damage was done in the section of the fuse shop affected.

The causes of the accident, which is the first to result in a fatality since work commenced at the factory in 1912, were investigated to-day by the operations safety committee.