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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ? Mailed February 5, 1930.

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Authority on Meteorology.

PROTECTION FROM SNOWSLIDES

At the head of a canyon at an elevation of 10,000 feet in the Wasatch Mountains of Utah, some 25 miles from Salt Lake City, is the old Emma silver mine. It is located in a glacial amphitheater where snowslides are common and more than 100 lives have been lost from this cause during winter mining operations. The mine buildings have been repeatedly swept away from the nearly vertical side of the mountain. Heroic measures recently adopted to remedy the situation are described by A.P. Thompson in the current number of the Explosives Engineer.

To guard against further disasters, a large structure including office, bunk house for the miners, dining room, etc., has been built into the mountainside by blasting out the solid rock. The roof was built flush with the surface, conforming to the slope, so that the slides pass over it without any damage to the structure.

Heavy mine timbers support the entire building and afford complete protection when, with tremendous roars and crashes, the snow avalanches pass overhead.

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