

State inspector of coal mines reports

Section 132, Pages 3931 - 3960

These reports of the Kansas State Mine Inspector mostly concern coal mining, though by 1929 the scope of the reports broadens to include metal mines. The content of individual reports will vary. The reports address mining laws and mining districts; industry production and earnings; fatal and non-fatal accidents; accident investigations and transcripts of oral interviews; labor strikes; mine locations; mining companies and operators; and proceedings of mining conventions. The reports document the political, economic, social, and environmental impacts of more than seventy years of mining in southeastern Kansas.

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KANSAS
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Public Service Commission.

TOTAL ACCIDENTS NOT ACCREDITED TO MINING INDUSTRY.

Office No.	NAME OF DECEASED.	Mine No.	Time of day accident occurred.		Date of accident.	Date of death.	Date of investigation.	Investigated by—	County in which accident occurred.
			A. M.	P. M.					
1	Frank Gelle		†		July 26	July 26	July 26	James Sherwood	Crawford
2	Simon Wolf	50	†				Oct. 8	Sherwood and Gruber	Crawford
3	James Jackson	1		2:00	Dec. 17	Dec. 17	Dec. 17	W. J. Miller	Osage

† Hour not known.

TOTAL ACCIDENTS NOT ACCREDITED TO MINING INDUSTRY—CONCLUDED.

Office No.	NAME OF EMPLOYER.	Cause of accident.	Occupation of deceased at time of death.
1	Old Doubleday Mine	Fell down shaft—exploring, and overcome by gas.....	Unemployed.
2	Central Coal & Mining Co.	Fell down shaft—probably suicide.....	Unemployed.
3	Comet Coal Co.	Acute heart failure induced by overexertion.....	Miner.

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FATAL ACCIDENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1927.

1. (Investigated by McGavran.) LLOYD BROWN was severely burned at the mine of the Base Line Coal Company on December 24, 1926. He was employed as a miner and was burned in the first north off the fifth west back entry. He had been employed by the Base Line Coal Company for some time, and the foreman considered him a practical miner. His room was in 46 feet and had no crosscut. He had one shot tamped and had 4 feet of powder made in two cartridges. He laid one cartridge down while he pushed the other cartridge into the hole, and before doing this he set his lamp down too close to the cartridge. The lamp fell over, setting the cartridge on fire, which exploded and burned him about the feet, legs and arms and also on the breast. This accident occurred about 11 a.m. The place in which Mr. Brown worked was very gaseous and had been marked out for several days. He had worked in this place two days previous to its being marked out. Mr. Brown was immediately given first-aid treatment at the mine and was then taken to the Mt. Carmel hospital, where he died January 6, 1927.

2. (Investigated by Glennon.) TOM KENDALL was seriously injured at mine No. 21 of the Sheridan Coal Company on February 8, 1927, at about 5 p.m., by a fall of rock in the second south entry. The rock was 5 feet 3 inches long, 4 feet 10 inches wide and averaged about 6 inches in thickness. It was 9 feet 4 inches from the inside edge of the rock to the face of the entry and the same distance from the face of brushing to the coal face. The rock fell to the right edge of the brushing, the left side being the rib side. There was a horseback crossing the entry on about a 20-degree angle. There was a slip on the right, 6 feet 8 inches from the right rail and running almost parallel with the entry. Mr. Kendall was employed as a machine helper and had the machine pulled into the entry to start work, and the intention was to pull it into the right side of the entry and start in a room turning on the right side of the entry. There were three props set in the entry at the inside edge of this rock and it is supposed that these had been knocked out to let the machine in and Mr. Kendall was taking the jacks up to the face when the rock fell. The three props that had been knocked out had been laid outside at the horseback. This rock was what would be considered a "pot rock." Mr. Kendall died February 10, 1927, from the result of his injuries.

3. (Investigated by Glennon.) AUGUST LONGO, miner, was instantly killed at mine No. 21 of the Sheridan Coal Company on February 21, 1927, at about 11:45 a.m., in the second north straight entry on the east side of the mine. The face of the entry was on a horseback and the rock fell from this horseback. It was a "pot rock," measuring 8 feet 10 inches long, 6 feet 8 inches wide and about 17 inches in thickness. The entry was 14 feet 4 inches wide and there was 18 inches of brushing back, and the coal was 2 feet 10 inches high. Mr. Longo was loading a car when the accident occurred. The roof in this place seemed good and this accident would be classed as an unforeseen accident.

4. (Investigated by Glennon.) TONY BOUVAL, miner, was killed at mine No. 20 of the Western Coal and Mining Company on March 7, 1927, at about 8:30 a.m., by a fall of rock. He was working in the fifth west back entry off the west angle off the first west on the north side of the mine. The rock measured 7 feet wide by 4 feet 8 inches long and about 6 inches thick on the inside edge of the right side. The place was 9 feet 10 inches wide where the rock fell and it was 11 feet 5 inches from the inside edge of the rock to the face. There was no prop set, but there were indications of pick marks on the rock that would lead me to believe that an attempt was made to pull the rock



down, and possibly could not be brought down. There was some coal shoveled back, where probably props were to be set. Mr. Bouval was forty-seven years of age and is survived by a wife and three children.

5. (Investigated by Shaw.) WILLIAM OLIVER, miner, was killed by fall of rock at the Crowe Coal and Mining Company mine No. 15 on March 19, 1927, at about 9:30 a.m., in room No. 10 in the third south back entry. It was 25 feet from the switch to the outside edge of the rock and it was 15 feet from the inside edge of the rock to the face of the coal. A double slip had crossed the working place at this point where the rock fell. The rock that fell on Mr. Oliver was 7 feet 9 inches long, 6 feet wide and 18 inches thick at the thickest point and 8 inches on the thin edge. He had just started to widen out his room on the right hand side when the rock fell on him. He was seventy-two years of age and is survived by his widow and one son.

6. (Investigated by Sherwood.) LLOYD PETERSON, bank shooter, was killed at the Ridge Coal Company, steam shovel, on June 27, 1927, at about 3:30 p.m. Mr. Peterson and an assistant, Mr. Hurt, were preparing a shot and had seventeen sticks of dynamite and two electrical detonators in the hole; and Peterson was gauging the third detonator while Hurt was pushing it into the hole with a tamper about 20 feet long when the charge went off prematurely, killing Mr. Peterson and injuring Mr. Hurt very badly. It is an evident fact that a little too much pressure was placed on the detonator which caused it to explode. The detonator is placed in a hole in the side of the dynamite cartridge and a wire is half-hitched around the stick. It is possible that this detonator was not in deep enough in the dynamite and the men left the end of it rub along the hole, causing a friction and setting the detonator off. The dynamite was kept in a wooden box without a cover and left in the sun, and it is believed that the dynamite got so hot that the nitrate of glycerine seeped to one end of the stick, making it dangerous to handle. Mr. Hurt was blown 12 feet from the shot and got up himself and sat on a rock, while Peterson was blown directly north and in front of the shot up against the buck wall. Mr. Peterson was thirty-eight years of age and is survived by four children.

7. (Investigated by Shaw.) JOHN SUCCI was instantly killed by falling down a shaft on August 11, 1927, at the mine of the Cherokee Coal Company, at about 10:30 a.m. The lower seam of the mine workings had been abandoned, but the rails and other material had not been removed from the mine workings. For this reason the shaft had been kept open, and at the same time they were developing what is known as the top vein at a depth of 70 feet. Mr. Succi was employed as a pusher and had pulled an empty car from the cage when another employee remarked he was going to ride the cage to the surface landing. Then while the cage was suspended at the surface landing Mr. Succi returned with a loaded car, probably forgetting the cage was not there, and pushed the loaded car into the shaft, he falling with it to the bottom, a distance of about 85 feet.

8. (Investigated by Sherwood.) NELSON GUY BRIGHT, miner, was killed by a fall of rock at the Sunflower Coal Company mine on September 2, 1927, at about 11:10 a.m., in the first west off the main south in room 8 off the first west. This room was being brushed up for an entry and Mr. Bright was cleaning up a brushing at the time of the accident. He had loaded six cars and had the seventh nearly loaded when the rock fell. It was 28 feet from the switch where he commenced to brush and 5 feet 8 inches from the gob wall to the rib. The rock was 9 feet 10 inches long, 3 feet wide and 11 inches thick.

9. (Investigated by Glennon.) HENRY McMURRAY, driller, was electrocuted at the Lone Star Coal Company steam-shovel mine on September 21, 1927, at about 10 a.m. He was moving some wires when the accident occurred, and on examination three bare connections were found. The use of wire has been discontinued at this mine and cable is used instead. Mr. McMurray was forty-three years of age and leaves a widow and six children.



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10. (Investigated by Sherwood and Gruber.) W. C. BEAN, coal hauler, was instantly killed at the James Coal Company mine October 10, 1927, at about 8:40 a. m. Mr. Bean was at the mouth of the mine as the cage was being hoisted to the surface landing. The cage with two barrels of water was hoisted to about 10 inches above the landing, and as it came to this point the engineer's foot slipped from the brakes of the engine and the cage fell almost to the bottom of the mine before the brakes were controlled. The cager heard the noise and had the cage lowered to the bottom of the mine, where he found Mr. Bean's body. The men did not know how the accident happened, but they said that Mr. Bean had previously helped to empty the barrels of water as they came to the landing, and it was their opinion that as the cage came to a point about the landing Mr. Bean reached out his hands to grasp hold of the barrels to empty them when the engineer's foot slipped from the brakes, letting the cage fall almost to the bottom of the mine, and also overbalancing Mr. Bean, who fell down the hole with the cage. Mr. Bean was about sixty-five years of age.



NONFATAL ACCIDENTS
REPORTED TO THIS OFFICE DURING 1927.

JANUARY.

Central Coal and Coke Company, Mine No. 45.

1. W. P. Jones, fireman; two fractured ribs on right side by slipping on ice; January 23, 1927.

Central Coal and Coke Company, Mine No. 51.

2. Fred Griffith, miner; right leg bruised by slipping while pushing loaded car; January 10, 1927.

3. George Hughes, trackman; right eye injured by rust hitting it; January 12, 1927.

4. V. Dutchi, miner; left foot injured by piece of rock falling on it; January 14, 1927.

5. F. Sadie, driver; third finger on right hand injured by pit car; January 20, 1927.

6. Fred Snider, miner; right leg bruised by chunk of coal falling on it; January 26, 1927.

7. George Maronalli, motorman; left foot bruised by car; January 27, 1927.

8. Pat Wilson, miner; bruised left knee by rock on bottom; January 28, 1927.

9. P. Herbine, miner; bruised third finger on left hand by rock; January 29, 1927.

10. Thomas Bell, miner; left groin strained by lifting rock; January 31, 1927.

11. Earl Williams, driver; bruised little finger of right hand while hitching a pit car to trip; January 31, 1927.

Crawford County Coal Company.

12. (Investigated by Deputy Glennon.) Andrew Oberta was burned by gas at the Crawford County Coal Company mine on January 17, 1927, at about 8:30 a.m., in the first south first west room. He was burned while loading a car with coal and had been just working thirty minutes when the accident occurred. Mr. Oberta was burned about the face and right arm. A check curtain was ordered to be put on the entry between the second and third rooms. The first room on this entry was in 50 feet from a crosscut; therefore a crosscut was ordered to the second room before any more work was done at the face.

Reidy Coal Company.

13. (Investigated by Deputy Glennon.) John Flynn was burned by gas at the Reidy Coal Company mine on January 20, 1927, at about 8:30 a.m. Mr. Flynn was gas man and had tested a place for gas in the second west off the second south straight entry. This place had been tested and gas found and Mr. Flynn came to this place to clear it of gas, but could get no register in his safety lamp. He then used his carbide lamp, which lit the gas and burned him around the face, arms and hands.

Steam and Domestic Coal Company.

14. (Investigated by Deputy Glennon.) J. A. Miller, miner, was injured at the Steam and Domestic Coal Company mine on January 5, 1927, at about 3 p.m. by fall of rock. Mr. Miller was on his way to the bottom of the mine when a rock fell, striking him on the side of his body. The rock was about 8 inches long, 4 inches wide and one-half inch thick and fell a distance of 18 or 20 feet.

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15. (Investigated by State Mine Inspector Sherwood.) James Thompson, miner, was injured on January 11, 1927, at the Steam and Domestic Coal Company mine at about 10:30 a.m., while turning a room. Thompson mentioned something in the morning to the boss about hurting his knee, but finished his shift that day.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 13.

- 16. Jess Swartz, cager; slightly injured about left leg; January 10, 1927.
- 17. Roy Cochran, engineer; knee injured; January 26, 1927.
- 18. George Bogarty, miner; left eye hurt by flying coal and bark of a prop; January 26, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 20.

- 19. Ben Rolaff, coal inspector; piece of coal struck him on head; January 3, 1927.
- 20. H. Anderson, miner; left foot bruised; January 10, 1927.
- 21. John Cressant, driver; left arm bruised at elbow; January 14, 1927.
- 22. Victor Loth, miner; third finger of left hand injured; January 20, 1927.
- 23. George Bell; left eye bruised; January 26, 1927.
- 24. John Jackson, miner; left ankle bruised; January 26, 1927.
- 25. Demar Jumet, miner; left foot bruised; January 27, 1927.
- 26. John Holt, driver; third finger on left hand bruised; January 28, 1927.
- 27. Joe Fermina, miner; back and left hip bruised; January 29, 1927.
- 28. Joe Casario, miner; back bruised; January 31, 1927.
- 29. Robert Greene, miner; left cheek and back of head cut, also arm bruised; January 31, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 22.

- 30. Antone Zemlock, miner; right eye injured; January 14, 1927.
- 31. Carl Montee, miner; little finger of right hand bruised; January 15, 1927.
- 32. Thomas Lasota, miner; third and fourth fingers of right hand bruised; January 15, 1927.
- 33. Antone Zemlock, miner; back strained; January 18, 1927.
- 34. Mose Kimbar, miner; head and shoulders bruised by piece of rock falling on him; January 20, 1927.
- 35. Steve Galemberito, miner; right knee injured; January 24, 1927.
- 36. Michael Pryor, miner; chest squeezed between cars; January 26, 1927.
- 37. Louis Guerriere, miner; deep gash in left arm; January 26, 1927.
- 38. John Shuster, miner; left eye injured by piece of coal; January 27, 1927.
- 39. August Doue, miner; right eye injured; January 29, 1927.
- 40. Joe Burgin, miner; back strained; January 31, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 24.

- 41. Lawrence Schaffer, sinker; left eye injured; January 7, 1927.

FEBRUARY.

Central Coal and Coke Company, Mine No. 45.

- 42. Pete Genardi, miner; back injured while pushing car; February 9, 1927.

Central Coal and Coke Company, Mine No. 51.

- 43. J. H. Miller, miner; sprained back by pushing car; February 2, 1927.
- 44. Joe Saccane, miner; left leg and knee bruised by fall of chunk of coal; February 4, 1927.
- 45. Joe Barnard, miner; third finger on right hand bruised; February 7, 1927.
- 46. Joe Kidwell, miner; left foot bruised by fall of rock; February 7, 1927.
- 47. Dave Murray, trip rider; face and head cut by coal trip wreck; February 16, 1927.
- 48. Frank Zedrick, miner; tail bone bruised; February 18, 1927.



49. B. Galloway, motorman; left hand bruised by pit car; February 22, 1927.
50. Thomas Gillard, driver; right eyeball bruised by small piece of dirt; February 23, 1927.

51. Byran Zurek, miner; right knee bruised by fall of rock; February 23, 1927.

52. Thomas Bell, miner; strained back while pushing pit car; February 25, 1927.

Dittman-Wachter Coal Company, Mine No. 2.

53. Henry Blayer, shotfirer; cut on face from windy shot; February 23, 1927.

Vulcan Coal Company.

54. (Investigated by State Mine Inspector Sherwood.) Pete McQuade, machine helper, was burned at the Vulcan Coal Company mine on February 15, 1927, at about 8 p. m. Mr. McQuade was burned about the face, ears and neck in the back entry of the second east by gas.

Mine Creek Coal Company.

55. R. B. Speaks, track layer; right leg broken by being struck by mine car; February 27, 1927.

Steam and Domestic Coal Company.

56. M. C. Cummings, miner; claims bad air; February 24, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 13.

57. Louis Bartelcotto, miner; injured finger while shoveling coal; February 5, 1927.

58. George Martin, miner; left knee swollen and inflamed; February 8, 1927.

59. Frank Kurda, miner; fingers of left hand hurt; February 10, 1927.

60. Joe Pennick, miner; claims thumb injured by fall of rock while loading car; February 25, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 20.

61. Matt Krantz, day man; first finger of right hand bruised; February 6, 1927.

62. Walter Hefton, miner; left eye injured; February 7, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 22.

63. Alexander Mark, miner; left leg and left arm bruised; February 1, 1927.

64. John Lamont, miner; right knee bruised; February 4, 1927.

65. John Digitti, miner; left side injured; February 7, 1927.

66. John Grect, miner; pain in right side; February 8, 1927.

67. John Falletti, miner; left eye injured; February 8, 1927.

68. Frank Gasperut, miner; right side of face and right arm burned; February 16, 1927.

69. Frank Linc, miner; left leg swollen below knee; February 18, 1927.

70. Charles Murphy, load dropper; laceration and contusion of left finger; February 19, 1927.

71. Frank Slapper, miner; right leg bruised; February 21, 1927.

72. Angelo Romanzi, miner; right hip bruised; February 24, 1927.

73. Blaine Dunlap, miner; right knee bruised; February 25, 1927.

74. William Goodin, miner; right eye injured; February 25, 1927.

75. Dan Stevens, miner; left foot injured; February 25, 1927.

76. Louis Caput, miner; shoulder injured slightly; February 25, 1927.

77. John Pleznik, miner; right hand injured; February 25, 1927.



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MARCH.

Carbon Coal Company, Mine No. 5.

78. Raymond Bevoul, machine helper; hand and foot scalded by blow-off valve; March, 1927.

79. George Owens, miner; eyes and face burned by premature shot; March, 1927.

Central Coal and Coke Company, Mine No. 45.

80. Joe Penacho, miner; piece of coal flew in his left eye while mining off shot; March 11, 1927.

Central Coal and Coke Company, Mine No. 51.

81. John Kelly, miner; strained right side by pushing loaded pit car; March 1, 1927.

82. Victor Kremer, miner; bruised right eye by piece of coal; March 1, 1927.

83. Jule Henry, miner; bruised left foot; March 3, 1927.

84. D. L. Dunn, engineer; bruised large toe on right foot; March 5, 1927.

85. Iquatz Jeraic, miner; bruised left foot; March 8, 1927.

86. Hillard Simmons, miner; lungs affected by bad air; March 11, 1927.

87. Olinto Baldwin, miner; lungs affected by bad air; March 11, 1927.

88. Ernest Rendaci, miner; left eye bruised; March 11, 1927.

89. Joe Fatley, rock engineer; left side strained; March 13, 1927.

90. Frank Masal, miner; left leg bruised; March 15, 1927.

91. James Edwards, miner; right eyeball bruised; March 15, 1927.

92. Ramage Yurck, miner; left hip strained; March 15, 1927.

93. Sid Gillard, driver; stomach and side bruised; March 17, 1927.

94. A. Marconi, miner; sprained back; March 17, 1927.

95. Ernest Rendaci, miner; slightly injured; March 19, 1927.

96. Jake Wettstein, miner; right arm bruised; March 21, 1927.

97. Bob Zanonel, miner; back bruised; March 21, 1927.

98. Frank Vengotten, miner; bruised left leg; March 21, 1927.

99. William Wykle, miner; right eye bruised; March 25, 1927.

100. James Calberdina, miner; strained back; March 25, 1927.

101. George Chaussard, miner; strained back; March 25, 1927.

102. Urbano Pucchi, miner; bruised back and shoulder; March 26, 1927.

103. Mike Cholino, miner; bruised left foot; March 26, 1927.

104. Joe Cook, miner; bruised left foot; March 26, 1927.

105. John Schantz, miner; sprained back; March 28, 1927.

106. Pete Appino, miner; burned face; March 28, 1927.

107. Gino Rosali, miner; bruised fingers on left hand; March 29, 1927.

108. Pat Wilson, miner; piece of coal flew in left eye and bruised it; March 29, 1927.

109. A. H. Barr, car repairer; left side bruised while pulling down some props; he slipped, his side striking a prop; March 20, 1927.

Chapon & Westerlin Coal Company.

110. Domanic Masso, shotfirer; right foot broken; March 10, 1927.

111. Antone Pollavich, miner; sulphur in right eye; March 8, 1927.

112. Ea Clark, miner; left hand poisoned; March 24, 1927.

Dittman-Wachter Coal Company, Mine No. 2.

113. Antone Vincetti, miner; bruised ankle by fall of coal; March 6, 1927.

114. Elias Slapshok, miner; bruised eye by coal; March 14, 1927.

115. William Bold, miner; twisted foot on car; March 17, 1927.

Litchfield Coal Company, Mine No. 110.

116. M. A. Wells, oiler; right foot bruised; March 1, 1927.



Prosperous Coal Company, Mine No. 1.

117. Mike Dean, miner; left shoulder, elbow and left hip bruised by being squeezed between car and rib; March 19, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 13.

118. Jack Hetherington, miner; left elbow bruised; March 21, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 20.

- 119. John Adams, miner; right eye injured; March 3, 1927.
- 120. Pete Berghafer, miner; strained right side; March 14, 1927.
- 121. Joe Lenassi, miner; sprained back; March 15, 1927.
- 122. Doyle Stewart, miner; left wrist sprained; March 23, 1927.
- 123. C. Powers, motor helper; back sprained; March 28, 1927.
- 124. Frank Beccik, miner; sprained back; March 28, 1927.
- 125. Pete Dubray, miner; right ankle sprained; March 31, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 22.

- 126. Louis Lasik, miner; right knee swollen; March 3, 1927.
- 127. Isadore Stafferoni, miner; sprained left shoulder while lifting a car; March 11, 1927.
- 128. Godfrey Ischiltseh, miner; tooth knocked out; March 14, 1927.
- 129. Fritz Lenassi, miner; back strained; March 15, 1927.
- 130. Sam Kynion, driver; finger of left hand badly cut; March 16, 1927.
- 131. John A. Simion, miner; slightly overcome by carbon monoxide; March 17, 1927.
- 132. (Investigated by Deputy McGavran.) Earl McGavran, miner, was injured by a fall of coal at the Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 22 on March 17, 1927. He was injured while mining off a shot and suffered a sprained knee and bruised hand and neck. The accident occurred in the second working place from the face in the second east straight entry off the main north entry.
- 133. Thomas Eutizi, miner; left knee bruised; March 26, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 24.

- 134. William Hossler, miner; right leg injured; March 10, 1927.
- 135. Frank Caput, miner; left ear and foot bruised; March 15, 1927.
- 136. Ernest Le Febvre, miner; right side injured; March 21, 1927.
- 137. Elmer Price, right finger injured; March 28, 1927.

APRIL.

Carbon Coal Company, Mine No. 8.

138. John Rogers, miner; back strained; April, 1927.

Central Coal and Coke Company, Mine No. 45.

139. Chris Schreyers, teamster; large bone on left foot bruised by rail falling on his foot; April 4, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 20.

140. William Horn, miner; bruised left knee; April 26, 1927.

MAY.

Central Coal and Coke Company, Mine No. 51.

141. George Mayberry, miner; left hand bruised by timber falling on it; May 18, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 13.

142. J. J. Delaney, foreman; head injured by fall of brick; May 3, 1927.

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JUNE.

Carbon Coal Company, Mine No. 7.

143. Robert Smith; arm and hip broken by falling from shovel; June, 1927.

McGrath Coal Company.

144. (Investigated by Deputy Glennon.) Raymond Darnady, miner, was injured by fall of rock at the McGrath Coal Company mine on June 10, 1927, at about 8:20 a. m., in the inside room off the third south straight on the east side of the mine. The rock was 7 feet long, 5 feet wide and about 3 feet thick. The room was driven in 27 feet from the entry rail. The room was 15 feet wide at the widest point and the coal was 3 feet high at the face. Mr. Darnady was loading a car and was cleaning coal from under the rock to pull it down when the accident occurred.

Limited Coal Company.

145. A miner (name unknown); arm bruised; June, 1927.

JULY.

Carbon Coal Company, Mine No. 7.

146. Joe Price, miner; back strained; July, 1927.
147. B. David, miner; little toe mashed; July, 1927.

Square Deal Coal Company.

148. W. M. Barrett, miner, had a leg broken by fall of coal at the Square Deal Coal Company mine on July 7, 1927, while mining off a short. The coal broke off a slip and rolled over on him, breaking his left leg just above the knee. Mr. Barrett was working about 250 feet from the bottom of the mine. The place where Mr. Barrett was working was 7 feet wide and had a slip running along the right rib. The coal was 3 feet 6 inches high.

Three Coal Company, Mine No. 2.

149. (Investigated by Deputy Glennon.) John McCabe was injured by fall of rock at the Three Coal Company mine on July 7, 1927, at about 8:30 a. m., in the third working room off the straight south entry. He had just finished loading a car when the rock fell. The rock broke in two pieces when it fell. One piece was 10 feet long and 4½ feet wide and about 4½ inches thick; the other piece was 5 feet 8 inches long, 3½ feet wide and 4½ inches thick. The outside piece of the rock rested with one end on the car, and had it not been for the loaded car Mr. McCabe would have been killed instantly.

AUGUST.

B. & H. Coal Company.

150. William White, miner; third finger of right hand injured by being caught between cars; August 16, 1927.
151. George White, miner; left arm caught by fan blade; August 19, 1927.

Carbon Coal Company, Mine No. 8.

152. Elvin Nelson; fell from steam shovel; August, 1927.

SEPTEMBER.

B. & H. Coal Company.

153. Camille Soloman, miner; right arm bruised by fall of rock; September 29, 1927.

Carbon Coal Company, Mine No. 8.

154. Tom Patterson, miner; steel in eye; September 6, 1927.



Cherokee County Coal Company, Mine No. 1.

155. A miner (name unknown); finger and eye injured; September 6, 1927.

Clegg Coal Company.

156. (Investigated by Shaw.) Albert Millard, miner, was injured at the Clegg Coal Company mine on September 1, 1927, at about 1:30 p.m., in room No. 2 in first north on west side of the mine. Mr. Millard was in the act of loading a car when a rock 6 feet long, 6 feet wide and 6 inches thick fell on him. One end of the rock struck him on the shoulder and left forearm.

Crowe Coal Company, Mine No. 24.

157. (Investigated by Shaw.) John McCulley, coupler, was injured at the Crowe Coal Company steam shovel No. 24 on September 7, 1927, at about 9:30 a.m. At the time of the accident Mr. McCulley was unhooking the hoisting cable from an empty car, when the swing of the cable between the engine drum and the car pulled the car back on him, throwing him to the rail in a sitting position.

Newland & Haynie Coal Company.

158. (Investigated by Deputy Glennon.) J. Loretto was injured by a fall of rock at the Newland & Haynie Coal Company mine on September 26, 1927, at about 9 a.m. He was injured in a branch room off room nine in the third north back entry. The room was just being turned and was in 21 feet from the left rail on the straight room and was 11 feet wide. The rock was 3 feet 8 inches long, 5 feet wide and from 1 to 4 inches thick.

Vulcan Coal Company.

159. (Investigated by State Mine Inspector Sherwood.) Joe Mariucci, miner, was injured at the Vulcan Coal Company mine by a fall of rock on September 20, 1927, at about 9 a.m., in the fourth north back entry off the east side of the mine. The coal had been undercut and shot and Mr. Mariucci was in the act of shoveling the coal to the truck when the rock fell from the roll. He was entirely covered with rock, although the rock was resting mostly on the coal.

OCTOBER.

Arkan Coal Company.

160. Elmer Morris, miner; bone broken between ankle and knee by fall of rock; October 20, 1927.

Central Coal and Coke Company, Mine No. 51.

161. George Mayberry, miner; piece of cast wheel fell on his hand; October 13, 1927.

162. John McNally, timberman; left foot bruised by fall of piece of rock; October 14, 1927.

163. George Zedrick, Sr., miner; right breast bruised by machine handle slipping and hitting him; October 18, 1927.

Kruger Coal Company.

164. Tom M. Barnard, miner; left leg injured by fall of rock; October 10, 1927.

McCune Coal Company.

165. Russell Boore, miner; sulphur in eye; October 12, 1927.

Sheridan Coal Company, Mine No. 18.

166. (Investigated by Deputy McGavran.) Leon Baucher, miner was injured while riding on a trip of cars at the Sheridan Coal Company on October 5, 1927. Mr. Baucher was injured about the body and suffered two broken ribs on his left side.

State inspector of coal mines reports

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Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 20.

- 167. Frank Lepo, miner; first finger on right hand injured; October 11, 1927.
- 168. Emil Pollard, miner; little finger of right hand injured; October 15, 1927.
- 169. Cleve Windsor, miner; left eye bruised; October 28, 1927.
- 170. Earl Thopmire, driver; right foot bruised; October 31, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 22.

- 171. Charles Keir, gasman; nail in left foot; October 12, 1927.
- 172. John Sarley, miner; forefinger of right hand bruised; October 13, 1927.
- 173. James Publik, miner; left leg bruised below the knee; October 17, 1927.
- 174. Stanely Gulay, miner; middle finger of left hand injured; October 18, 1927.
- 175. Steve Lasik, miner; palm of right hand injured; October 18, 1927.
- 176. Ed Goodin, miner; right eye injured by piece of coal striking it; October 21, 1927.
- 177. Anton Benzo, miner; forefinger of right hand caught between roof and car; October 24, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 24.

- 178. Frank Cabasco, miner; middle finger of right hand injured; October 29, 1927.
- 179. Louis Caput, cager; right ankle slightly injured; October, 1927.
- 180. John Paffi, miner; thumb of right hand slightly injured; October 31, 1927.

Wilbert-Schreeb Coal Company, Mine No. 3.

- 181. (Investigated by State Mine Inspector Sherwood.) Mr. Reinie Jadoul was injured at the Wilbert-Schreeb Coal Company mine No. 3 by fall of rock on October 26 at 10:30 a. m. The rock was a pot rock and measured 2½ feet long, 2 feet wide and about 4 inches thick in the thickest part.

NOVEMBER.

Crowe Coal Company, Mine No. 24.

- 182. (Investigated by Deputy Shaw.) Abe Butler, coal shooter; suffered cuts, burns and bruises to his face and eyes caused by a premature explosion at the Crowe Coal Company mine No. 24 on November 22, 1927, at about 2 p. m. He was in the act of loading a hole when a spark from the steam shovel ignited the powder. It had been the custom to stop the shovel at the request of the coal shooter when loading the holes, but witnesses who were present at the time of this accident stated that Mr. Butler failed to notify the craneman of the shovel to stop while he was loading the holes with powder.

McCune Coal Company.

- 183. Samuel R. Parsons, coal digger; bruised right foot by fall of lump of coal; November 3, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 20.

- 184. James Giradano, driver; left foot bruised; November 4, 1927.
- 185. Hugh Morgan, miner; left hand bruised; November 7, 1927.
- 186. John Blessant, miner; small cut on left thumb; November 9, 1927.
- 187. Leo Benda, miner; left hip and ankle bruised; November 9, 1927.
- 188. Joe Lesson, miner; back sprained; November 12, 1927.
- 189. John Miller, miner; big toe of left foot injured; November 21, 1927.
- 190. Carl Kocik, miner; sprained back; November 23, 1927.
- 191. Jim Durkin, miner; alleges sickness from dynamite fumes; November 23, 1927.
- 192. Fred Hefton, miner; claims he strained his right side while pushing a loaded car out of his working place; November 28, 1927.



193. Ed Valk, miner; middle finger of left hand injured; November 28, 1927.

194. Pearl Ferek, miner; right eye bruised; November 29, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 22.

195. Jack Manfre, miner; left side of back injured; November 2, 1927.

196. Sam Gerard, driver; cut on top of head and shoulders; November 4, 1927.

197. E. P. Delaney, driver; kicked by mule; November 19, 1927.

198. Joe Gulay, miner; left foot bruised; November 2, 1927.

199. Paul Russian, miner; right eye injured; November 23, 1927.

200. Sam Kynion, driver; back of right hand bruised and swollen; November 23, 1927.

201. Louis Vaughn, engineer; left eye injured; November 27, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 24.

202. John Zeleznick, miner; right wrist slightly injured; November 23, 1927.

203. Carroll Farrer, miner; left foot slightly injured; November 25, 1927.

DECEMBER.

Dittman-Wachter Coal Company, Mine No. 2.

204. Bert Vincentti, miner; sprained wrist while shoveling brushing; December 14, 1927.

205. Frank Dophing, day man; ankle injured by fall of rock; December 17, 1927.

Larson Coal Company.

206. John Larson, miner; strain to nerves and muscles of back by falling of drawslate; December 29, 1927.

Prosperous Coal Company.

207. Mike Dean, miner; knee bruised; December 1, 1927.

208. John Tocci, miner; forearm and face burned by gas; December 5, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 20.

209. Dom Nizzia, miner; right eye injured; December 12, 1927.

210. Louis Lepo, miner; left big toe injured by piece of rock falling on it; December 12, 1927.

211. Cleve Windsor, miner; right eye bruised; December 2, 1927.

212. John Falletti, miner; little finger of right hand cut and broken; December 5, 1927.

213. W. L. Cooper, miner; back bruised; December 7, 1927.

214. Sam Caravella, miner; cut between first and second fingers of right hand; December 7, 1927.

215. George Deverse, miner; back injured by fall of piece of rock while pushing car; December 9, 1927.

216. Jim Casario, miner; fractured skull; December 9, 1927.

217. Thurlow Kendig, miner; left hand bruised by being caught between car and end of drawbar; December 17, 1927.

218. James Price, miner; right eye bruised by piece of coal striking it; December 20, 1927.

219. Fred Whitenback, miner; little finger of right hand cut and bruised; December 28, 1927.

220. (Investigated by Deputy Glennon.) Henry Bogaty, miner, was injured at mine No. 20 of the Western Coal and Mining Company by a falling rock on December 30, 1927, at about 10 a. m. He was injured in the first working room in the fourth south off of the fifth east on the south side of the mine.

Mine Inspection Department.

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The rock was 4 feet 2 inches long, 4 feet 6 inches wide and 7 inches thick on the inside edge and tapered to 1 inch on the outside edge. Mr. Bogaty's back was broken by the fall of this rock. He is nineteen years of age and single.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 22.

- 221. Charles Logneau, miner; left knee injured; December 2, 1927.
- 222. Charles Nauterer, miner; claims injury but doctor unable to find same; December 6, 1927.
- 223. Steve Slusser, miner; left wrist sprained; December 6, 1927.
- 224. Carlo Bavuso, miner; shoulders and chest strained; December 8, 1927.
- 225. Andrew Kmetz, miner; right foot injured; December 10, 1927.
- 226. Frank Presternik, timberman; fracture of pelvis bone and bruises over head and body by car running over him; December 12, 1927.
- 227. Earl Lamberson, tracklayer; strained himself while pushing a car of ties; December 15, 1927.
- 228. Joe Carratti, miner; left knee bruised; December 15, 1927.
- 229. Leopold Castieaux, miner; palm of right hand cut; December 23, 1927.
- 230. Harry Schoonover, miner; right foot injured by wheel of car running over it; December 27, 1927.
- 231. Albert Gulay, miner left foot injured by being hit by pick; December 29, 1927.

Western Coal and Mining Company, Mine No. 24.

- 232. Frank Kranker, miner; back slightly injured; December 3, 1927.
- 233. Tony Susternic, miner; left shoulder, foot and side injured by piece of rock hitting him; December 7, 1927.
- 234. Andrew Ribber, miner; burned slightly by gas; December 21, 1927.
- 235. Mike Caput, miner; right foot slightly injured; December 27, 1927.

Wilbert-Schreeb Coal Company, Mine No. 3.

- 236. John Wilbert, airman; face and arms burned by gas; December 17, 1927.
- 237. Gus Gustafson, miner; sulphur in right eye; December 19, 1927.
- 238. William Gowans, miner; piece of sulphur in right eye; December 19, 1927.
- 239. Paul Kramer, miner; sulphur in left eye and bruised knee; December 20, 1927.



PART TWO.

**REPORT OF STATE MINE RESCUE
DEPARTMENT.**

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PERSONNEL OF STATE MINE RESCUE STATIONS.

Ex Officio Superintendent of Rescue Stations.

JAMES SHERWOOD Pittsburg.

Assistant Superintendents of Rescue Stations.

WILLIAM HISLOP Pittsburg.
WILLIAM BEVERIDGE Arma.

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

PITTSBURG, KAN., March 2, 1928.

*Mr. R. M. Pickler, Chairman, Public Service Commission,
Topeka, Kan.:*

DEAR SIR—I have the honor to submit to you herewith for transmittal to Hon. Ben S. Paulen, governor, and the legislature of the state of Kansas, report covering the activities of the Kansas State Mine Rescue Department for the calendar year ending December 31, 1927.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES SHERWOOD,
*Ex Officio Superintendent of Mine
Rescue Stations.*

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

TOPEKA, KAN., March 2, 1928.

Hon. Ben S. Paulen, Governor, Topeka, Kan.:

DEAR SIR—I beg to submit herewith report of James Sherwood, *ex officio* superintendent of Mine Rescue Stations, which report sets forth the activities of the Mine Rescue Department of the State of Kansas during the calendar year ending December 31, 1927.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. PICKLER,
Chairman, Public Service Commission.



Report of Mine Rescue Department.

FIRST-AID AND MINE RESCUE IN KANSAS DURING THE YEAR 1927.

Instruction in first-aid training is becoming more and more popular in all lines of industries, and not only among miners as was the custom a few years ago. The Kansas Gas and Electric Company and the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company have every one of their employees take this training. During the year of 1927 Mr. William Hislop, rescue superintendent of the Central Rescue Station, was called on to do this training. There were sometimes as many as fifty men instructed in one class in first aid. The members of the class came from all parts of the district to familiarize themselves with this kind of work.

There were also a number of high-school students and boy scouts who received first-aid training from William Beveridge, rescue superintendent of the Arma Rescue Station.

No first-aid contests were held during the year of 1927, nor were there any outstanding demonstrations given. This was due to the poor working conditions in the coal mines in this district. There were thirty first-aid certificates issued from this department for the year 1927. This does not indicate that a small number were trained. Practically all the miners have certificates for first-aid training, and when additional training is given no certificate is issued. In order to hold a certificate in good order one must take additional training every six months.

The following are boy scouts and high-school students who received first-aid training in 1927:

<i>Name, Address and Occupation.</i>	<i>Certificate number.</i>
Alson, Violet, Arma, student.....	900
Battitori, John, Arma, student.....	895
Beveridge, Thomas, Arma, student.....	910
Burgin, Hugh, Arma, student.....	894
Burgin, Lucille, Arma, high-school student.....	908
Bush, Della, Arma, student.....	903
Dover, Edward, Arma, student.....	897
Ester, Delbert, Arma, student.....	909
Ester, Lorraine, Arma, student.....	904
Goddard, Kenneth, Arma, boy scout.....	898
Guerrieri, Primo, Arma, boy scout.....	890
Henderson, Chester, Arma, boy scout.....	896
Hill, Joe, Arma, boy scout.....	884
Hromek, Thomas, Arma, boy scout.....	893
Hume, Thelma, Arma, student.....	901
Kendig, Pearl, Arma, student.....	905
Loveridge, Theo, Arma, boy scout.....	899
Martin, Marie, Arma, student.....	907
Masquelier, Wanita, Arma, Student.....	906
Montee, Louis, Arma, boy scout.....	896
Morgan, Etoele, Arma, student.....	902
Morgan, Matthew, Arma, boy scout.....	883
Mossom, Adrian, Arma, boy scout.....	885
Myers, Howard, Arma, boy scout.....	882
Myers, James, Arma, boy scout.....	888
Nuley, Edward Glen, Arma, boy scout.....	889
Shoup, Ralph, Arma, boy scout.....	891
Steele, Johnnie, Arma, boy scout.....	892
Tipton, Alan, Arma, boy scout.....	887

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MINE RESCUE WORK.

The rescue station had but one rescue call, and that came from the Double-day Coal Company mine, located at Englevale, reporting that Frank Golle had fallen down a mine. The caller was rather excited, as he merely stated that a man had fallen down a shaft, and made it appear as though the man's life might have been saved.

Mr. Golle went down the shaft by way of buntons. When he was about thirty-five feet below the surface he struck a body of gas and was overcome immediately and fell to the bottom of the mine and was killed.

MINE EXPLOSIONS.

Mine explosions for the year 1927 were confined to three mines, namely, one explosion at mine No. 2 of the Dittman-Wachter Coal Company, one at mine No. 16 of the Jackson-Walker Coal Company, and two at mine No. 17 of the Jackson-Walker Coal Company. In the four explosions reported to this office it was found upon investigation that not one of them covered a large area in the mine, nor was there considerable damage done. There was no loss of life from mine explosions during this year, this being due to the mines being thoroughly rock-dusted, which extinguished the flames and confined them to small areas. It is the opinion of the mine inspectors that had not these mines been rock-dusted the explosions would have proven fatal to several men and would also have caused considerable damage.

EXPLOSION AT DITTMAN-WACHTER COAL COMPANY MINE No. 2, FEBRUARY 23, 1927.

(Investigated by Sherwood and Glennon.) We this day, February 24, 1927, investigated an explosion which occurred at mine No. 2 of the Dittman-Wachter Coal Company on February 23, 1927, at about 4:50 p. m. Henry Blaker, shotfirer, was caught in the explosion, but was rescued by his partner, John Krashoe, Mr. Blaker received only slight injuries.

On investigation, James Sherwood, state mine inspector, and Mr. Glennon, deputy mine inspector, found a crosscut shot drilled near the face of the first working room, which was No. 13. This shot was drilled through towards room No. 14 and lacked only about one foot from being through to room No. 14. There was also an overcharged shot at the face of room No. 13. The explosion spread both ways from room No. 13. This was in the back entry off of what is known as the second west off of the first north. As there were only three working places in this entry, it gathered considerable violence in the old abandoned places in this entry and came out through the back entry and crossed through a crosscut at the face. At this point there were indications of extreme heat, as there was coking an inch thick on the gobbing and timbers. The mine being rock-dusted, the flames were extinguished and there was no indications of fire except where it crossed between the two entries. The explosion knocked out three or four stopping between the two entries, but the flame was extinguished by rock dust almost immediately.



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Public Service Commission.

It is an evident fact that had it not been for the fact that this mine was rock-dusted in a first-class manner it would have taken the tippie and fan house off the mine. This is about the fifth explosion we have had since the operators in this field begin to use rock dust, and on every occasion the flames were extinguished and the speed of the explosion checked by the rock dust. We have watched very closely the benefits derived from the use of rock dust in the coal mines and we have no argument to make, as it has proven its value on every occasion.

EXPLOSION AT JACKSON-WALKER COAL COMPANY MINE No. 16, MARCH 11, 1927.

(Investigated by Sherwood and Glennon.) An investigation was made of an explosion which occurred at mine No. 16 of the Jackson-Walker Coal Company on the evening of March 10, 1927, in the second east off of the first south on the west side of the mine. We found the explosion came to the bottom and there was no sign of fire except near the face of the second east off the first south. We found a shot in the second room from the face of the second east. The shot had blown the bottom of the room smooth and clean and showed that it caused a great deal of force and fire. The last room from the face had a shot on the left rib five feet thick, and it seemed as though the powder got wet and threw fire. This shot was about a foot on the solid, but was too big a shot for this mine, as the bottom sticks and powder got down in the black-jack. In the face of the entry we found a shot that had been gripping and had no chance, and it is our opinion that this is the place where the explosion started and was helped by shots in the second room turning outside. We also found a keg of powder that had gone off, which increased the force of the explosion. We found an overcharged shot in a room following the entry on the left-hand side. There was no coking in this entry except where the powder had exploded. On examining the third east we found nearly all the rooms had connections and the explosion had come through those rooms. We also found a great deal of coking on the gob side of the straight entry where it came through those dusty rooms, but the flame was soon extinguished when it came in contact with the rock dust.

This mine had been recently rock-dusted and was in good condition. If it had not been rock-dusted the shotfirer would have lost his life and the mine would have been a total wreck, for it had a wonderful start. The shotfirer was Bob Tatham. He states that he saw no fire, but dust was carried to the shaft bottom, a distance of one-half mile. He was on the main road outside the parting when the explosion occurred. We recommended that the trip on the parting be sprinkled before it was moved and the second and third east entries cleaned and rock-dusted before operations were resumed and that all miners be cautioned about their shots. There were no doors blown off and no damage done except in these two entries.

EXPLOSION AT JACKSON-WALKER COAL COMPANY MINE No. 17, DECEMBER 5, 1927.

On Monday, December 5, 1927, there was an explosion at Jackson-Walker mine No. 17, now being operated by the Frontenac-Pittsburg Coal Company. Part of this mine is being fired by electricity and it was in this part of the mine that the explosion occurred. The shotfirers were on top when the explosion occurred.

An investigation of the explosion was made December 6, 1927, by William Glennon, deputy mine inspector. The bottom of the mine showed very little trace of the explosion. There was no coking on the bottom timbers, but on the east side, where there are eight rooms in a block of coal, there was some coking found. Some coking was found in the first working room in this block, on the right side of the room, which is driven in about eighty feet. Two shots in this room had blown out, but left very little coking. The second

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room had two shots in good shape. In the third room there were three shots, one on the left and one in the center of the face, and the other on the right. The shot on the left looked as though it had kicked back on the heel and was slightly bound in at the back by a very small roll. Back from the face about thirty feet and outside the crosscut on the right there was some coking, and each way up and down the entry there was slight coking.

Apparently the explosion had split and went each way from this room. There was no disturbance, except a few props lying on the roadway. The seventh and eighth north on this side of the mine had been shooting on the solid, and it was agreed not to shoot any more shots in here until these two entries could be shot by the electrical method also. This part of the mine will also be cleaned and rock-dusted.

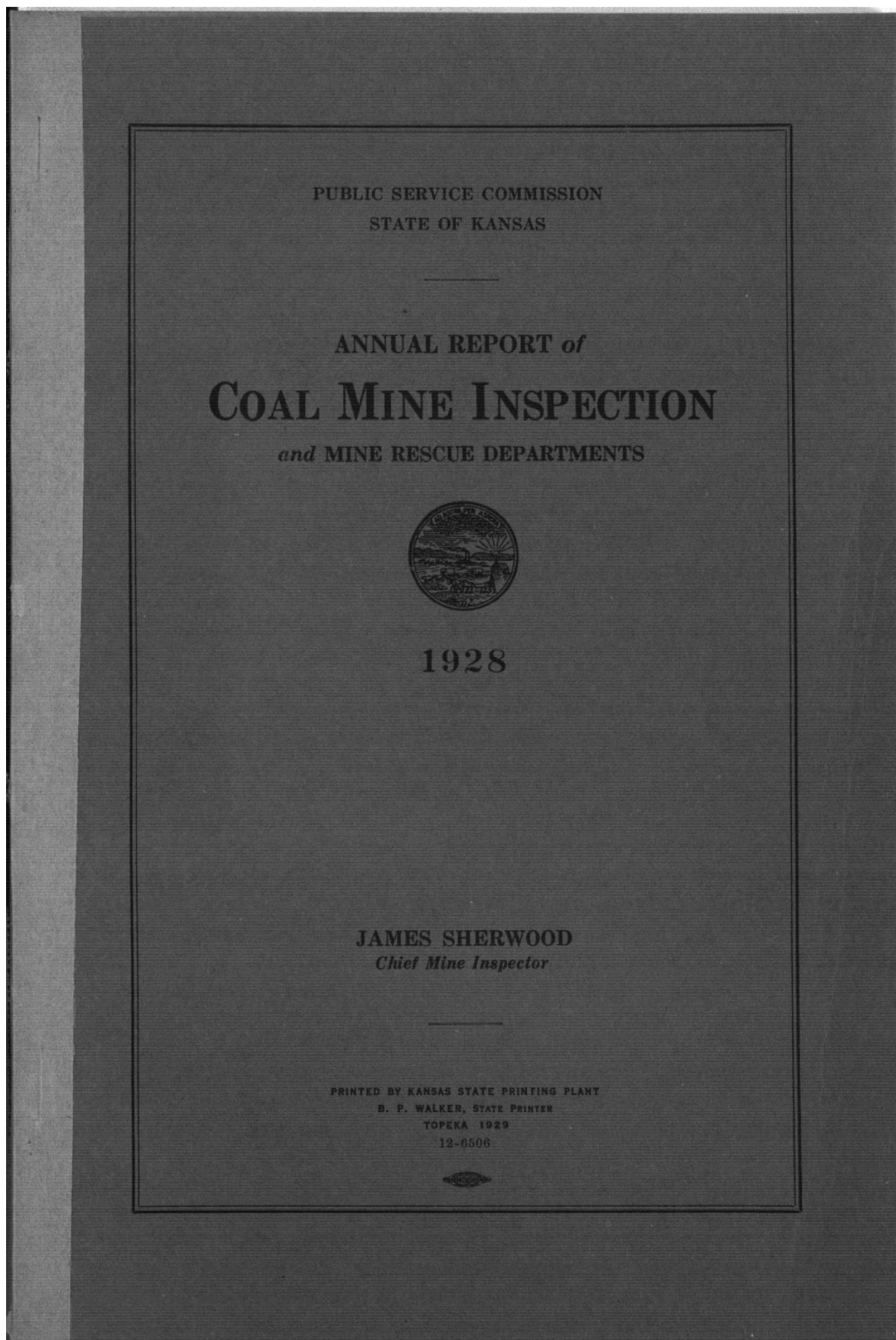
EXPLOSION AT JACKSON-WALKER COAL COMPANY MINE No. 17,
DECEMBER 6, 1927.

(Investigated by Glennon.) An investigation was made of this explosion on December 7, 1927. It was almost a recurrence of the explosion of December 5, 1927. The shotfirers were out of the mine when it took place. The damages underground, with the exception of the destruction of a few tool boxes and setting off of two kegs of powder, was not great. There was only slight traces of coking. Not much can be said about this explosion except that this part of the mine is very dry and dusty and the coal is very hard to shoot. The tippie was set afire, but the fire was put out before any great damage was done. The mine is now being thoroughly cleaned and will be rock-dusted again before any more shots are fired.



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ANNUAL REPORT
OF
COAL MINE INSPECTION
AND MINE RESCUE DEPARTMENTS

1928

JAMES SHERWOOD,
Chief Mine Inspector

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PART ONE.

REPORT OF COAL MINE INSPECTION DEPARTMENT

(5)

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

PITTSBURG, KAN., March 7, 1929.

*Mr. R. M. Pickler, Chairman,
Public Service Commission, Topeka, Kan.:*

DEAR SIR—I have the honor to submit herewith to you, and through you to the Hon. Clyde M. Reed, governor of the state of Kansas, and to the honorable legislature, report of the Coal-mine Inspection Department of the state for the calendar year ending December 31, 1928.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES SHERWOOD,
State Mine Inspector.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

TOPEKA, KAN., March 7, 1929.

*To the Honorable Clyde M. Reed, Governor, and the Legislature
of the State of Kansas:*

I have the honor to submit to you herewith report of James Sherwood, state mine inspector, in charge of the Mine Inspection and Mine Rescue Departments, for the calendar year ending December 31, 1928, containing statistics and other information deemed valuable to the mining industry.

Very respectfully,

R. M. PICKLER,
Chairman, Public Service Commission.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

In presenting this report to the public I desire to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all those who have in any way assisted me in the performance of the duties of this office.

Acknowledgments are especially due to the deputy mine inspectors, William Glennon, Ernest Shaw, W. J. Miller and W. F. McGavran, for the efficiency which they have displayed in the discharge of the difficult and complicated duties devolving upon them, and for their untiring efforts in the enforcement of the mining laws of the state.

JAMES SHERWOOD,
State Mine Inspector.



PERSONNEL OF COAL MINE INSPECTION DEPARTMENT, STATE OF KANSAS.

*Chief Mine Inspector,
In Charge of Mine Inspection Department.*

JAMES SHERWOOD Pittsburg.

Deputy Mine Inspectors.

WILLIAM GLENNON Pittsburg.

ERNEST SHAW Weir City.

W. J. MILLER..... Burlingame.

W. F. McGAVRAN..... Arma.

Clerk.

GEORGE J. GRUBER..... Frontenac.

Stenographer.

ELIZABETH A. KOTZMAN..... Frontenac.

EXPENDITURES DURING THE YEAR 1928.

MINE INSPECTION AND MINE RESCUE DEPARTMENTS FOR THE
CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1928.

Fund No. 9.	Salary of stenographer in mine inspection office.....	\$1,200.00
Fund No. 11.	Salary of chief mine inspector.....	2,700.00
Fund No. 12.	Salary of four deputy mine inspectors.....	7,200.00
Fund No. 13.	Salary of two rescue superintendents.....	3,600.00
Fund No. 14.	Salary of clerk in mine inspection office.....	1,200.00
	Rescue stations equipment	86.41
	Incidental and traveling expenses of chief mine inspector.....	1,318.90
	Traveling expenses of four deputy inspectors.....	2,331.85
	Incidental and traveling expenses of two rescue superintendents.....	542.16
	Incidental and traveling expenses of clerk.....	302.90

Total salaries and expenses of Mine Inspection and Mine Rescue Departments
for the year 1928..... \$20,482.22

Report of Coal Mine Inspection Department

The coal production for deep and strip mines of the state of Kansas for the year ending December 31, 1928, totaled 3,355,408 tons, which is a decrease of 330,408 tons compared with the production of the previous year. This decrease in production is probably due to the number of deep and strip mines that are being worked out from year to year, but the main reason for Kansas coal production decreasing is the lack and uncertainty of markets. There was also a wage controversy existing from April 1 to about October 1, that caused idleness of most of the mines of this state for six months.

A total of 226 mines were operating in the state, employing 6,048 men, of which 3,940 were classified as miners; 922 as underground day men and 1,184 as top men. The total number of men employed for 1928 shows a decrease of 1,025 compared with 1927. The average number of days worked for 1928 was 150, or an increase of 11 days compared with 1927.

There were eight fatalities in Kansas coal mines in 1928, or a decrease of two fatalities compared with the previous year. The nonfatal accidents for 1928 totaled 177, or a decrease of 62 compared with 1927. This is a very good showing for the Kansas mines considering the conditions under which the miners work, especially when mines are not working steadily. Loose rock is particularly hard to hold when mines are not working every day and the men work only two or three days a week, and they are usually in a hurry to get out all the coal they can with the least amount of effort. However, there were 419,426 tons of coal produced for each fatality, or one fatality to every 756 men employed. There was also one nonfatal accident for every 18,957 tons of coal produced in 1928, or one nonfatal accident for every 52 men employed.

Crawford county deep mines rank first in the matter of coal production of the state of Kansas. There were 85 shaft, slope and drift mines in operation in the county for 1928. Coal production for deep mines of this county was 1,144,078 tons, or 426,227 tons less than mined in 1927. The deep mines of this county worked an average of 152 days and employed 3,577 men, or 59.24 per cent of the Kansas miners. There were two fatalities in the deep mines of this county and 149 nonfatal accidents. This is a decrease of 5 fatal and 70 nonfatal accidents compared to the year of 1927. These mines consumed 88,061 25-pound kegs of powder and 395,570 pounds of dynamite. The average height of coal is about 2 feet 10 inches, with an average overburden of 82 feet.

In addition to deep-mine tonnage for Crawford county, there were 627,737 tons of coal mined by stripping operations. This is a decrease of 4,191 tons compared to the previous year. Twenty-five strip mines were in operation during 1928, giving employment to 463 men. These strip mines consumed 10,296 25-pound kegs of powder and 109,250 pounds of dynamite. The average height of coal was 1 foot 10 inches, with an average overburden of 16 feet. There were 2 fatal accidents during the year in strip mines of this county and 10 nonfatal accidents. The strip mines worked an average of 119 days during the year 1928.



State inspector of coal mines reports

Cherokee county ranks second in the class of coal production for the year 1928. Sixty-three mines produced 273,483 tons of coal, a decrease of 95,622 to that of 1927. These mines consumed 18,784 25-pound kegs of powder and 45,387 pounds of dynamite for the year 1928. There was 1 fatal accident in these mines and only 6 nonfatal accidents, or 1 nonfatal accident for every 45,580 tons of coal mined during 1928.

Twelve strip mines in Cherokee county, employing 219 men, produced 543,435 tons of coal for the year 1928. This is an increase of 423 tons compared to the previous year. There is a decrease of 29 men employed to that of 1927. These strip mines consumed 5,145 25-pound kegs of powder and 30,660 pounds of dynamite for the year 1928. One fatal accident occurred in the strip mines of Cherokee county and no nonfatal accidents were reported for the year 1928. The average height of coal was 2 feet 7 inches, with an average overburden of 15 feet. The average number of days worked was 147 for strip mines in this county.

The Kansas State Prison mine and Home Riverside Coal Mines Company were the only two producers in Leavenworth county. These two mines produced 113,871 tons for coal for the year 1928, or a slight increase compared to 1927. These mines employed 578 men, or an increase of 40 men compared to the previous year. There were 2 fatal accidents in these two mines during 1928. There are no explosives used for the extraction of coal in this county. The coal averages 1 foot 10 inches, with an average overburden of 720 feet.

There were 23 mines operating in Osage county, producing 74,528 tons of coal for the year 1928. This is a very slight decrease compared to the production in 1927. Osage county mines employed 418 men during 1928. There were no accidents in the mines of this county. Dynamite was practically the only explosive used for the extraction of coal in this county, which was 6,680 pounds. The coal averages 1 foot 6 inches, with an average overburden of 88 feet. The mines of this county worked an average of 127 days for the year 1928.

Eleven mines in Linn county reported a production of 43,575 tons of coal for the year 1928. This is a decrease of 39,643 tons compared with the year of 1927. The mines of this county employed 147 men. There were no accidents in Linn county mines. These mines worked an average of 130 days. The coal will average 2 feet 9 inches, with an average overburden of 72 feet.

The production for the mines of Bourbon county for the year 1928 was 34,701 tons of coal. There were six mines producing coal, giving employment to 52 men. The explosives used by mines of this county were 343 25-pound kegs of powder and 4,540 pounds of dynamite. There were no accidents in mines of this county. An average of 150 days were worked during 1928. The coal will average about 1 foot 8 inches, with an average overburden of 18 feet.

An estimate of the amount of coal produced by miscellaneous mines of this state that do not report to this department is made. There are many mines in Cherokee and Crawford counties that change hands so many times that it is hard to keep an accurate account of them. At about the time quarterly reports are due the mines have changed hands and the former operator has gone, leaving no report as to production, etc. This is a condition that exists among the smaller mines. There is also a number of mines operating in and around Bourbon and Neosho counties which supply local trade in winter months that do not report their production to this department.