

State inspector of coal mines reports

Section 203, Pages 6061 - 6090

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
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



FATAL ACCIDENTS

No fatal accidents occurred during the first half of 1954.

(112)



METAL MINE DIRECTORY FIRST HALF OF 1954

INSPECTOR, METAL MINE INSPECTION DIVISION

JACK TEAGUE Baxter Springs

(113)

8—5857



SUMMARY OF METAL MINE REPORT

FIRST HALF, 1954

The total production of lead and zinc from the metal mines in the state of Kansas for the first half of 1954 was 16,857 tons.

There were 13 mines in operation during the half year, in which 242 men worked an average of 96 days and used 408,850 pounds of dynamite. There were no fatal accidents and there were 11 lost-time accidents and 52 no-lost-time accidents.

TOTAL LEAD AND ZINC PRODUCTION IN METAL MINES, FIRST HALF OF YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1954

	Zinc	Lead	Total
1. Metal Mines	14,697 tons	2,160 tons	16,857 tons



METAL MINES AND TAILING MILL DIRECTORY AND PRODUCTION, FIRST HALF OF 1954

Office No.	NAME OF COMPANY	Mine name or number	Name of superintendent	Address
1	Byrd & Poole Mining Co.....	Golden Rod No. 24.....	C. F. Poole.....	North Connel Ave., Picher, Okla.
2	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Big John.....	W. R. Sillaway.....	Cardin, Okla.
3	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Lucky Jew.....	W. R. Sillaway.....	Cardin, Okla.
4	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Grace B.....	W. R. Sillaway.....	Cardin, Okla.
5	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Bilharz.....	Bob Haffner.....	Cardin, Okla.
6	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Webber.....	Carl Williams.....	Cardin, Okla.
7	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Westside.....	Carl Williams.....	Cardin, Okla.
8	Linda Lou Mining Co.....	Brewster No. 3.....	C. F. Becker.....	Picher, Okla.
9	Mason Mining Co.....	Sonny Boy.....	Robert Mason.....	1918 Park, Baxter Springs
10	McCoy & Carey Mining Co.....	Tulsa-Quapaw.....	Jim McCoy.....	Treeco
11	Mid Continent Mining Co.....	Robinson.....	Kenneth Childress.....	Baxter Springs
12	Patsy Sue Mining Co.....	Ballard.....	A. R. Rowden.....	700 Oneda Street, Picher, Okla.
13	St. Louis Mining & Smelting Co.....		Kenneth A. Nobs.....	Baxter Springs

Mine Inspection Division

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METAL MINE DIRECTORY OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, FIRST HALF OF 1954

Office No.	NAME OF COMPANY	Mine name or number	Number of days worked	Production		
				Tons of zinc	Tons of lead	Total tons of lead and zinc
1	Byrd & Poole Mining Co.....	Big John.....	144	450	150	600
2	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Lucky Jew.....	151	2,425	137	2,562
3	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Grace B.....	155	2,485	84	2,569
4	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Webber.....	155	2,274	321	2,595
5	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Bilhars.....	42	373	71	444
6	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Westside.....	155	1,435	510	1,945
7	Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co.....	Northern.....	155	3,956	741	4,697
8	Linda Lou Mining Co.....	Brewster No. 3.....	45	130	14	144
9	Mason Mining Co.....	Sonny Boy.....	24	14	2	16
10	McCoy & Carey Mining Co.....	Tulsa-Quspa.....	150	6	6	12
11	Mid Continent Mining Co.....	Robinson.....	6	113	76	189
12	Patsy Sue Mining Co.....	Ballard.....	40	60	24	84
13	St. Louis Mining & Smelting Co.....		26	982	24	1,006
	Totals.....		1,248	14,697	2,160	16,857

State Labor Department

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PRODUCTION, EMPLOYEES, DAYS WORKED, EXPLOSIVES USED, AND ACCIDENTS FOR METAL MINES IN CHEROKEE COUNTY,
FIRST HALF OF 1954

Office No.	Employees			Number pounds of dynamite	Fatal accidents	Nonfatal accidents		Remarks
	Under- ground men	Number surface men	Total men employed			Lost time	No lost time	
1.....	9	2	11	120 000				
2.....	21	2	23	52 300		1	8	
3.....	13	1	14	29 250		1	8	
4.....	22	1	23	47 700		1	2	
5.....	18	1	19	6 500		2	9	
6.....	16	2	18	30 250		2	11	
7.....	33	3	36	48 350				
8.....	6	1	7	2 500				
9.....	5	1	6					
10.....	2	1	3	600				
11.....	11	13	24	2 600				
12.....	3	1	4	1 500		3	11	
13.....	31	23	54	67 300				
Totals.....	190	52	242	408 850		11	52	

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FATAL ACCIDENTS, METAL MINES, FIRST HALF OF 1954

No fatal accidents occurred during the first half of 1954.

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CONSECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION MINE INSPECTION DIVISION

The law creating the Mine Inspection Division was passed by the Kansas Legislature in 1883 (Third Biennial Session). Following are the Chief Mine Inspectors since then down to date:

E. A. Scammon	July, 1883
E. A. Scammon	1884
E. A. Scammon	1885
John R. Braidwood	July, 1885
John R. Braidwood	1886
G. W. Findlay	1887
G. W. Findlay	1888
G. W. Findlay	1889
John T. Stewart	August, 1889
John T. Stewart	1890
John T. Stewart	1891
John T. Stewart	1892
John T. Stewart	1893
A. C. Gallagher	April, 1893
A. C. Gallagher	1894
A. C. Gallagher	1895
Bennett Brown	July, 1895
Bennett Brown	1896
George T. McGrath	1897
George T. McGrath	1898
Edward Keegan	1899
Edward Keegan	1900
D. R. Casselman	1901
D. R. Casselman	1902
James A. Orr	January, 1903
James A. Orr	1904
Frank Gilday	July, 1904
Frank Gilday	1905
Frank Gilday	1906
Frank Gilday	1907
Frank Gilday	1908
Frank Gilday	1909
Frank Gilday	1910
Frank Gilday	1911
Leon Besson	1912
Leon Besson	1912
Francis Keegan	1913
Francis Keegan	1914
Francis Keegan	1915
John Pellegrino	May, 1915
John Pellegrino	1916
John Pellegrino	1917
Fred Green	May, 1917
Fred Green	1918
Fred Green	1919
Fred Green	1920
James Sherwood	1921
James Sherwood	1922
James Sherwood	1923
James Sherwood	1924
Leon Besson	1925
James Sherwood	1926
James Sherwood	1927
James Sherwood	1928



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State Labor Department

James Sherwood	1929
James Sherwood	1930
James Sherwood	1931
William P. Keegan	November, 1931
William P. Keegan	1932
William P. Keegan	1933
William Glennon	September, 1933
William Glennon	1934
William Glennon	1935
William Glennon	1936
William Glennon	1937
Dan J. O'Donnell	May, 1937
Dan J. O'Donnell	1938
Dan J. O'Donnell	1939
John Delplace	July, 1939
John Delplace	1940
John Delplace	1941
John Delplace	1942
John Delplace	1943
John Delplace	1944
John Delplace	1945
John Delplace	1946
John Delplace	1947
John Delplace	1948
John Delplace	1949
John Delplace	1950
John Delplace	1951
John Delplace	1952
John Delplace	1953
John Delplace	1954



25-5857

**REPORT OF THE
MINE INSPECTION SECTION
AND THE
MINE RESCUE STATION**



JANUARY 1, 1954, TO JUNE 30, 1956

LABOR DEPARTMENT · STATE OF KANSAS

R. L. WARKENTIN, State Labor Commissioner

JOHN DELPLACE, Chief Mine Inspector

LABOR DEPARTMENT · STATE OF KANSAS

Report of the Mine Inspection Section and the Mine Rescue Station

From January 1, 1954, to
June 30, 1956



R. L. WARKENTIN, *State Labor Commissioner*
JOHN DELPLACE, *Chief Mine Inspector*

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In submitting this report, I desire 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, and especially to the Deputy Inspectors—Robert Archibald, Jack Teague and Sim S. Clarke and to the Superintendent of the Mine Rescue Station—John Cartwright, who have so efficiently assisted me through their co-operation and untiring efforts in the discharge of their duties.

JOHN DELPLACE, *Chief Mine Inspector.*



TRANSMITTAL

PITTSBURG, KAN., July 1, 1956.

R. L. Warkentin, State Labor Commissioner, Topeka, Kan.:

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the report of the Mine Inspection Section and the Superintendent of the Mine Rescue Station of the State Labor Department for the state of Kansas for the period January 1, 1954, to June 30, 1956.

Respectfully,

JOHN DELPLACE, *Chief Mine Inspector.*

TOPEKA, KAN., August 10, 1956.

Hon. Fred Hall, Governor, State of Kansas:

YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have the honor and pleasure to transmit to you the report of the Mine Inspection Section and Mine Rescue Station of the State Labor Department for the state of Kansas as submitted by Chief Mine Inspector, John Delplace.

This report is for a period of thirty months beginning with January 1, 1954, and ending June 30, 1956.

Cordially yours,

R. L. Warkentin
Commissioner of Labor.

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PERSONNEL OF COAL MINE INSPECTION SECTION STATE OF KANSAS

Chief Mine Inspector

John DelplaceArma

Deputy Inspectors

Robert ArchibaldBurlingame

Sim S. ClarkeBaxter Springs

Superintendent, Mine Rescue Station

John CartwrightRoseland

Clerk-Stenographer

Shirley GassPittsburg

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

Sylvia Billington resigned September 15, 1955.

Shirley Gass was employed September 17, 1955.

Jack Teague died November 28, 1955.

Sim S. Clarke was employed March 16, 1956.



EXPENDITURES DURING THE YEAR 1954

Salary of Chief Mine Inspector.....	\$4,394.00
Salary of stenographer-clerk.....	2,274.00
Salary of rescue station superintendent.....	3,528.00
Salary of one deputy inspector.....	3,360.00
Traveling expense.....	2,764.75
Telephone.....	212.40
Postage.....	20.00
Supplies, repairs, equipment.....	87.62
Total.....	\$16,640.77

EXPENDITURES DURING THE YEAR 1955

Salary of Chief Mine Inspector.....	\$4,512.00
Salary of stenographer-clerk.....	2,030.72
Salary of rescue station superintendent.....	3,528.00
Salary of one deputy inspector.....	3,224.52
Traveling expense.....	2,533.72
Telephone.....	224.03
Postage.....	40.00
Supplies, repairs, equipment.....	73.09
Total.....	\$16,166.08

EXPENDITURES DURING THE FIRST HALF 1956

Salary of Chief Mine Inspector.....	\$2,256.00
Salary of stenographer-clerk.....	1,014.00
Salary of rescue station superintendent.....	1,764.00
Salary of one deputy inspector.....	767.52
Traveling expense.....	1,272.32
Telephone.....	84.95
Postage.....	none
Truck—supplies, repairs, equipment.....	27.04
Total.....	\$7,185.83

MINE INSPECTION SECTION RECORD OF INSPECTIONS

MINE INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS

JOHN DELPLACE, Chief Mine Inspector

1954	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January.....	6	8	4	.....	18	1,088
February.....	11	4	4	.....	19	886
March.....	10	7	6	.....	23	997
April.....	11	6	5	.....	22	1,098
May.....	3	14	1	.....	18	1,128
June.....	5	12	4	.....	21	902
July.....	4	14	3	.....	21	900
August.....	10	6	4	1	21	1,010
September.....	7	11	3	.....	21	960
October.....	8	6	4	.....	18	1,031
November.....	9	7	3	.....	19	819
December.....	6	10	5	.....	21	993
Totals.....	90	105	46	1	242	11,812

1955	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January.....	11	3	6	.....	20	1,212
February.....	5	8	5	.....	18	814
March.....	9	8	4	.....	21	1,173
April.....	4	12	4	.....	20	1,157
May.....	5	11	5	.....	21	922
June.....	5	11	3	.....	19	1,162
July.....	1	9	1	.....	11	638
August.....	7	10	5	.....	22	940
September.....	9	8	3	.....	20	886
October.....	5	11	4	1	21	942
November.....	6	8	5	19	909
December.....	6	10	3	1	20	1,015
Totals.....	73	109	48	2	232	11,770



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State Labor Department

MINE INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS—CONCLUDED

JOHN DELPLACE, Chief Mine Inspector

1956	Safety meeting	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
		General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January.....		8	11	2		21	1,312
February.....		11	7	3		21	1,068
March.....		8	8	5		21	1,340
April.....		10	10	1		21	941
May.....		11	6	2	1	20	1,270
June.....	1	4	13	3		21	1,064
Totals...	1	52	55	16	1	125	6,995



Mine Inspection Division

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MINE INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS

ROBERT ARCHIBALD, Deputy Mine Inspector

(Since June, 1943, Inspector Archibald has been devoting most of his time to factory inspection duty)

1954	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January	1	1			2	83
February						
March						
April						
May						
June						
July						
August						
September		1	1		2	78
October						
November	2		5		7	212
December						
Totals	3	2	6		11	373

1955	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January	5				5	39
February	3				3	127
March	1	1			2	104
April						
May						
June						
July						
August						
September		2	2		4	91
October	5	1			6	195
November						
December						
Totals	14	4	2		20	556



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State Labor Department

MINE INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS—CONCLUDED

ROBERT ARCHIBALD, Deputy Mine Inspector

1956	Safety meeting	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
		General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January...		7				7	252
February...							
March...		1	1			2	64
April...							
May...							
June...							
Totals.		8	1			9	316



Mine Inspection Division

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MINE INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS

JOHN CARTWRIGHT, Deputy Mine Inspector

(Mr. Cartwright devotes half of his time to the Mine Rescue Station of which he is Superintendent.)

1954	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January	3	8	.....	2	13	540
February	1	5	1	.....	7	338
March	3	7	1	.....	11	500
April	1	7	.....	.....	8	352
May	1	7	2	.....	10	492
June .....	.....	9	2	.....	11	510
July .....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	136
August	2	5	3	.....	10	618
September	2	6	5	.....	13	756
October	5	6	1	.....	12	622
November	4	6	1	.....	11	624
December	2	8	1	.....	11	556
Totals	24	75	17	2	118	6,044

1955	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January	4	7	3	.....	14	644
February	3	14	.....	.....	17	676
March	3	7	3	1	14	776
April	4	8	2	.....	14	702
May	3	5	3	.....	11	522
June	2	9	1	.....	12	680
July	2	9	.....	.....	11	538
August	1	8	2	2	13	664
September	2	2	4	.....	8	382
October	3	5	4	12	694
November	3	9	1	13	628
December	3	8	2	13	682
Totals	33	91	24	4	152	7,588

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State Labor Department

MINE INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS—CONCLUDED

JOHN CARTWRIGHT, Deputy Mine Inspector

1956	Safety meeting	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
		General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January.....	1	5	9			15	758
February....	1	7	6	2		16	900
March.....	4	12	3	1		20	1,067
April.....	1	4	6	1	1	13	704
May.....	1	10	4	1		16	737
June.....	2	1	13	1		17	428
Totals...	10	39	41	6	1	97	4,594



Mine Inspection Division

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MINE INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS

JACK TEAGUE, Metal Mine Inspector

1954	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January	7	14	.....	.....	21	566
February	5	15	.....	.....	20	592
March	7	18	.....	.....	25	646
April	5	19	.....	1	25	638
May	5	16	.....	.....	21	590
June	5	20	.....	.....	25	652
July	8	16	.....	.....	24	688
August	6	18	.....	.....	24	624
September	4	19	.....	.....	23	616
October	2	19	.....	.....	21	672
November	3	14	.....	.....	17	488
December	4	20	.....	.....	24	630
Totals	61	208	.....	1	270	7,402

1955	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January	1	19	.....	.....	20	876
February	1	20	.....	.....	21	538
March	4	21	.....	.....	25	654
April	2	22	.....	.....	24	630
May	5	19	.....	.....	24	636
June	4	19	.....	.....	23	658
July	1	22	.....	.....	23	568
August	4	20	.....	.....	24	612
September	4	18	22	668
October	4	21	25	601
November	4	17	21	464
December
Totals	34	218	252	6,905

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State Labor Department

MINE INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS

SIM S. CLARKE, Metal Mine Inspector

1956	Safety meeting	Inspections and investigations					Miles traveled
		General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	
January.....							
February.....							
March.....		5				5	191
April.....		11	8			19	731
May.....		3	15			18	598
June.....			8			8	288
Totals.....		19	31			50	1,808

Mine Inspection Division

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TOTAL INSPECTIONS AND MILES TRAVELED

Total Number of Inspections and Investigations, and Miles Traveled
by All Inspectors During the Year, 1954

NAME OF INSPECTOR	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	Miles traveled
John Delplace.....	90	105	46	1	242	11,812
Robert Archibald.....	3	2	6	.....	11	373
John Cartwright.....	24	75	17	2	118	6,044
Jack Teague.....	61	208	.....	1	270	7,402
Totals.....	178	390	69	4	641	25,631

TOTAL INSPECTIONS AND MILES TRAVELED

Total Number of Inspections and Investigations, and Miles Traveled
by All Inspectors During the Year, 1955

NAME OF INSPECTOR	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	Miles traveled
John Delplace.....	73	109	48	2	232	11,770
Robert Archibald.....	14	4	2	.....	20	556
John Cartwright.....	33	91	24	4	152	7,588
Jack Teague.....	34	218	.....	.....	252	6,905
Totals.....	154	422	74	6	656	26,819

TOTAL INSPECTIONS AND MILES TRAVELED

Total Number of Inspections and Investigations, and Miles Traveled
by All Inspectors During First Half of 1956

NAME OF INSPECTOR	Safety meeting	General	Special	Scale	Accident	Total	Miles traveled
John Delplace.....	1	52	55	16	1	125	6,995
Robert Archibald.....	.....	8	1	.....	.....	9	316
John Cartwright.....	10	39	41	6	1	97	4,594
Sim Clarke.....	.....	19	31	.....	.....	50	1,808
Totals.....	11	118	128	22	2	281	13,713



REPORT OF COAL MINE INSPECTION DIVISION, 1954

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REPORT OF COAL MINE INSPECTION DIVISION FOR CALENDAR YEAR, 1954

Total coal production in the state of Kansas for the year of 1954 was 1,331,241 tons. There were 26,185 tons produced from the deep mines and 1,305,056 tons produced from the strip mines.

There were 10 shaft, slope and drift mines and 34 strip mines in operation during 1954, a total of 44 mines. These mines gave employment to 635 men and worked an average of 108 days.

There were 113 men employed in the deep mines and 522 men employed in the strip mines. The total amount of explosives used was 150 pounds of permissible powder, 1,792,956 pounds of dynamite and 54,950 pounds of pellet powder. There were no fatal accidents, 14 lost-time accidents and 60 no-lost-time accidents reported during 1954.

Bourbon county strip mines produced 12,003 tons of coal. There were 5 mines in operation, employing 17 men and working an average of 91 days. The total amount of explosives used was 150 pounds of permissible powder, 270 pounds of dynamite and 4,457 pounds of pellet powder. There were no fatal accidents, no lost-time accidents and 1 no-lost-time accident.

Cherokee county strip mines produced 593,165 tons of coal. There were 7 mines in operation employing 181 men and working an average of 187 days. The total amount of explosives used was 607,000 pounds of dynamite and 45,215 pounds of pellet powder. There were no fatal accidents, 5 lost-time accidents and 29 no-lost-time accidents.

Coffey county strip mines produced 3,275 tons of coal. There were 2 mines in operation employing 8 men and working an average of 128 days. The total amount of explosives used was 375 pounds of dynamite. There were no fatal accidents and no nonfatal accidents.

Crawford county deep mines produced 20,053 tons of coal. There were 5 mines in operation employing 80 men and working an average of 97 days. The total amount of explosives used was 1,286 pounds of dynamite and 1,853 pounds of pellet powder. There were no fatal accidents, 2 lost-time accidents and no no-lost-time accidents.

Crawford county strip mines produced 253,631 tons of coal. There were 12 mines in operation employing 249 men and working an average of 86 days. The total amount of explosives used was 331,550 pounds of dynamite and 2,750 pounds of pellet powder. There were no fatal accidents, 7 lost-time accidents and 25 no-lost-time accidents.

Franklin county deep mines produced 731 tons of coal. There was 1 mine in operation employing 1 man and working an average of 68 days. There were no explosives used. There were no fatal accidents and no nonfatal accidents.

Labette county strip mines produced 1,277 tons of coal. There were 2 mines in operation employing 5 men and working an average of 73 days. The total amount of explosives used was 100 pounds of dynamite. There were no fatal accidents and no nonfatal accidents.

Linn county deep mines produced 269 tons of coal. There was 1 mine in

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operation employing 2 men and working an average of 80 days. The total amount of explosives used was 375 pounds of pellet powder. There were no fatal accidents and no nonfatal accidents.

Linn county strip mines produced 435,678 tons of coal. There were 3 mines in operation employing 51 men and working an average of 109 days. The total amount of explosives used was 843,400 pounds of dynamite and 300 pounds of pellet powder. There were no fatal accidents, no lost-time accidents and 5 no-lost-time accidents.

Osage county deep mines produced 5,132 tons of coal. There were 3 mines in operation employing 30 men and working an average of 117 days. The total amount of explosives used was 975 pounds of dynamite. There were no fatal accidents and no nonfatal accidents.

Osage county strip mines produced 6,027 tons of coal. There were 3 mines in operation employing 11 men and working an average of 77 days. The total amount of explosives used was 8,000 pounds of dynamite. There were no fatal accidents and no nonfatal accidents.

As in the past, we have in this field a great many men who go into the old strip mines and scrape their own coal. This individual operation amounts to considerable tonnage. Men with trucks also get this coal and sell it on the open market. This division is unable to obtain an accurate record of this tonnage.

The coal operators and the Mine Inspection Division of the Labor Department are very happy to report that this is 5 years straight that there have been no fatal accidents in the coal mining industry.

I want to thank the coal operators, employees and all who may have had something to do with it for their wonderful co-operation in helping to achieve this record.

JOHN DELPLACE, *Chief Mine Inspector.*