

State inspector of coal mines reports

Section 70, Pages 2071 - 2100

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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out from the shot in the main entry, which showed he had come back after all these shots had been fired, as there was no coal or dust of any description on him. Not a bone was broken, nor was there a mark of any kind to show that he had come in contact with a shot. In my opinion he had gone out to the mouth of the entry, counting the shots as they went off. We found one shot had failed to go, and I think he had gone back to see which one it was. As he had tamped the shot in the entry, I think he was going in there to see if it had gone off. We had been hunting for him for about three hours. There was no smoke there when we found him; the air was going all right."

Samuel Holymes, shot-firer at mine No. 10, states under oath: "Generally when a new man comes on to fire with me we go together, but the one that got killed said he would rather fire alone, so he took the south side. I told him to leave a mark at the mouth of the entry when he went in, so if he got down in the smoke we would know which entry he was in, and I would do the same. He just left a mark at main entry and not at the cross-entry; that was the reason it took so long to find him. After I had finished the north side I came to the bottom and whistled up and asked the engineer if my buttty was out, and he said 'No,' so I went to look for him. I found all the entries fired, as there was smoke in all of them. I ran back to the bottom and hollered to see if my buttty was out yet. They said 'No,' so I told them to start the fan going faster, which they did. Mr. Fulton and Jess Lambe came down and we searched for him. We trailed him in and out of all cross-entries on this side of the mine. We went up to the first south off the first southeast and found him lying on main entry, right in front of cross-cut. He was lying on coal thrown there by the shot and he had not been hit. I think he had counted the shots and then went back to see if they had gone off. His lamps were in the entry on top of shot. It was clean and looked as though it had been dropped there after the shots had gone off. When we got there it was pretty well cleared up. I think he went in too quick and started out but got down before he could get out. In my judgment, if he had made it back about 100 feet he would have been safe, because when I had first went up this entry I must have been within 75 or 100 feet of him when I met the smoke, but of course I did not know he was there. In this entry it was cleared up within about 100 feet of where we found him—I mean the first time I went in this entry; that was about three hours before we found him."

Frank Develak, who helped get the man, confirmed the foregoing statements.

20. December 20, 1906, Fidelity Coal and Mining Company, Stone City. An explosion occurred, causing the death of Jno. Day, J. W. Edwards, Frank Brennan, Al Pattroff, Don Rat, Mat Lucca and Heslep Dorman. (See under head of "Explosions.")



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21. Fatal accident to E. Letterman, January 7, 1907, at the C. C. & C. mine No. 27. E. Letterman, a miner fifty-seven years of age, was hurt by a fall of rock, and died two weeks later, leaving a wife and five children.

Thomas McKnight, Joe Knufale and Pneooff Pehar, who worked close to him and heard the fall, ran over and pried the rock up and got him out. They had been in there and said he had props under this rock. He was considered a very careful miner.

22. Fatal accident to Wesley Hasper, a colored miner, January 3, 1907, at Atchison. While coming up on the cage he got caught between the cage and the crib. He was forty-seven years of age and married.

23. Fatal accident to Joe Steinwess and Jno. Loiche, January 11, 1907, at mine No. 1 of the Girard Coal Company. (See under head of "Explosions.")

24. Fatal accident to Ted Williams, top boss, January 29, 1907, at the C. C. & C. mine No. 31. He was run over by a railway car. No one saw the accident. When found he was under the car.

25. Fatal accident to Julius Leconte, January 29, 1907, at the Southeast Kansas Coal Company's mine. He was a married man thirty-seven years of age. Killed by a fall of rock.

26. Fatal accident to Frank Zupences, February 1, 1907, at mine No. 11 of the Western Coal and Mining Company. He was a married man forty years of age, and leaves a wife and four children. He was killed while timbering on the parting.

John Farman, one of the men who was timbering with him, states: "We were making a parting on the first south on the west side. He was cleaning out a place to put in a leg under the timber when a fall of several tons of rock fell on him. He hollered for the rest of the men to come and get him out. There had been a broken timber; we were trying to put some timber underneath the one that was broken when the broken timber gave away. I did not think the timber was dangerous, although the top was pretty bad. We did not have any falls before this. The boss came pretty often to see that everything was all right. He was there when the man got killed."

John Morton's statement: "There was three of us working cutting hitches and the boss was with us. He got done before us and the boss told him to move some dirt that was in our way. After moving the dirt the boss told him to clean out a place for a leg. He had started to work at it when the boss spoke to him again. He stopped and leaned on his shovel. I did not hear what the boss said to him, but I heard the timbers break and I jumped out of the way. I did not consider the timber that broke was dangerous or I would not have worked under it. Before the rock fell I heard some one holler 'Look out.' This caused me to jump out of the way. I ran to the second west and called my brother to come and help us get a man out from

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under a rock. When we got him out he was still conscious but died soon after."

George Richardson, mine foreman, states: "On the Saturday before we had a fall on this parting and I started in to timber all anew. On Monday we started in to cut hitches. There were some new timbers already up; they were 6 x 6 double; some of them were single. We finished lagging the timbers we had put in on Tuesday. We were cutting hitches and I had ordered the man to remove some dirt to put a leg in. I had just started to work when I heard the timbers snap, and hollered 'Look out there!' I jumped back and the fall came and caught him. I had been there nearly all day so as to see that everything was all right. I did not think the timbers unsafe or I would not have gone there, and I would not have allowed a man to work under it until it had been made safe. I could not say that the roof was very good, as there is a horseback there and it is hard to say what will happen. I always tell the men who are timbering to be careful and to make themselves safe—does not matter how long it takes. I think he was a practical miner, as he showed that by his work. He had worked for me five days. As soon as I saw there was nothing more to fall we started to move the rock and pulled him out. He was conscious when we took him out, but lost consciousness on the road to the bottom. When we got him out from under the rock he said he was going to die. I was within three feet of him when the rock fell and I had to jump to get out of the way of the fall. When I hollered he did not seem to move. I do not think he had any bones broken."

27. Fatal accident to Aden Hoots, February 11, 1907, at Brown's mine, located three miles east of Pleasanton. He was fifty-one years of age, a practical miner, and was killed by a fall of rock. Jno. Hoots, his son, was mining a shot, when he heard the rock fall, and heard his father call. He ran to him and found him under the rock. He was dead when he got to him. The rock which killed him was six by four feet and one foot thick. He was wedging some rock on his road that was too low. His place was driven past this place about nine feet. When he got room at the face to gob it, he came back to wedge it down, when it fell on him.

Robt. Speaks, who helped take him out, said: "I was in the outside of where the man got killed. I heard the rock fall and heard his son call to him and ask him if he was all right. He did not answer, and his son called me. I ran around and helped pry the rock off of him. He was dead when we got him out."

28. Fatal accident to Joe Nagrasek, February 21, 1907, at mine No. 7 of the Western Coal and Mining Company. He was killed by a fall of rock. He worked in the last room on the entry. He was in the dark and had gone into the entry to get a light. As he turned to go back to his own place the rock fell



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on him. He was dead before they could get him out from under it. The rock was ten by ten feet, and six inches thick. He had worked in the third west off the seventh south on the west side.

Joe Strukel states: "The man who got killed had got in the dark and gone into the entry to get a light. I heard him holler when the rock fell; ran over, and two of us tried to raise it off of him. It was too heavy. We called some more men. When they came we raised the rock off of him, but he was dead when we got him out."

29. Fatal accident to Walter Montgomery, February 26, 1907, at the C. C. & C. mine No. 38. He was a driver; got killed by a fall of rock on the third east entry switch. He was coming from the bottom with an empty trip and was to go to the third east. The drivers generally use a sprag in their trip. He came down the hill without a sprag. At the third east the drivers have to slow their trip so as to turn in. His trip took the straight and jumped the track, and knocked out a prop which was set between the tracks, which caused some rock to fall on him.

Frank Simmons, the air man, who was working at a door about twenty-five feet from where he was killed, says: "I heard the driver coming in very fast. When he got to the third east his mule went straight and the cars jumped the track and knocked a prop out which was between the tracks, letting a rock fall that was eighteen by eight feet and about seven inches thick. When I got to him he was partly out of the car. The rock had caught him on the neck and shoulders. He was dead. We tried to lift the rock and could not; went to the bottom and got some more help and went back and took him out."

George Gibson states: "I was working at the third east trap-door when he was killed. He was coming in very fast. His mule took the straight; the cars jumped the track and knocked out a prop and let the rock fall that killed him."

Frank Reri, a committee man, who examined this rock, said it was about eighteen by eight feet and seven inches thick. The prop that had been knocked out was under the first car. There is no doubt but if this young man had been driving slow this accident would have been avoided, but in his anxiety to get the coal out from the miners, he was hurrying up and driving fast—another one of the victims of the coal-mine while in the performance of his duties.

30. Fatal accident to Morris Phillips, February 26, 1907, at mine No. 16 of Cockerill Coal Company. (See account under head of "Explosions.")

31. Fatal accident to Robt. Bunten, manager of the Belville Coal Company, at Scranton, February 27, 1907. He was killed by a fall of rock in his mine in the first north entry, about 150 feet from the main entry. He was found under about nine or ten tons of dirt. I got to the mine about an hour after the accident had been reported to the top. The fall which killed



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him rolled off the side. It seems there was a small fall of dirt, probably 1000 pounds, lying on the road, and he was driving the mule in with an empty trip when he ran into the fall. He stopped the mule and went past it to throw the dirt out of the way and stooped over towards the side that had rolled off, when it rolled over and struck him on the back of the head, forcing his head down between his feet and over against the rib. He was dead when found and was probably under the fall one or two hours. The fall which killed him was one of those large side falls, which are very frequent, as the side will break and remain jammed to the top until a small piece falls from the top or center of the road, relieving the side break. In this case, as frequently happens, it was heavier at the top and no doubt rolled over on account of the small fall, which several miners had noticed. Robt. Curley, a miner working in that entry, had noticed this large amount of loose rock hanging on the side and extending over toward the middle of the road, and noticed that it was falling in the center. This is the reason for my conclusion of how the accident happened. The deceased had thorough knowledge of mining, theoretical and practical, and in his long career in the mines had doubtless taken many risks in timbering and repairing dangerous places. This sad accident ends the career of one of the most thorough mining men in this district.

John Bunten, son of the deceased, says: "I was on top hoisting the coal. There was a trip hoisted out of the slope about 10:30. After waiting quite a while, until about one o'clock, I walked down the slope, thinking perhaps the trip had got off the track and father could not get it on. I went in the first north entry and found the mule hooked onto the empty trip. In front of the mule was a large fall. I went past the mule and crawled over the fall, which was about nine or ten tons. I went on into the face where the men were working and asked the Bradely boys if they had seen father. They said 'No,' he had not been there this morning. I then asked them was there a fall out near the mouth of this entry when they came in this morning. They answered 'Yes, about one box.' I told them that there was about twenty boxes now, and asked them to come on out as I thought father might be under the fall. I ran back and went over the fall again and thought he may have gone up the second north to get a man to help clean up the fall. I went to Chas. Hill's room and asked him if father had been up there. He said he had been in there in the morning and pulled a trip out. I told Chas. Hill I was pretty sure he was caught under the fall in the first north and asked him to come on with me and see if we could find him under the fall. I ran back to the first north entry and Chas. Hill passed me and went in the first north ahead of me. He got up on top of the fall and seen father's body almost covered up. He said 'Yes, he is here under the fall.'"



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Chas. Hill says: "Me and Robt. Hodges began breaking the large chunks and got him out. We found the wedge which he had been using in cleaning up the small fall when the large fell and struck him on the back of the head, forcing his head down between his feet and over against the rib."

32. Fatal accident to Wm. Mayes, March 16, 1907, at the M. K. & T. mine No. 6. He was smothered to death. He was married and had a family of three children. (See under head "Explosions.")

33. Fatal accident to M. Alberty, March 16, 1907, at mine No. 6 of the Hamilton Coal Company. M. Alberty, a citizen of Cherokee, was killed by falling into the shaft. He was fifty-seven years of age.

George Fulton, fireman at this mine, states: "I was weighing coal that day, as the weighman was not at work. I was standing on the west side of the top house looking toward the dirt landing and saw a man standing there who was not an employee of the mine. I did not know what he was doing there, as I did not know who he was. I was busy weighing and did not pay much attention to him, as I thought he was some man who had no business there. He had a bunch of papers in his hand. When I next saw him he was lying on the landing on his side and reaching with his left hand back under the platform; he was leaning over the shaft and acted as though he was reaching for something. I was just about to call to him when he made a clutch and partly turned, then fell head first into the shaft. He hit a bunton in the shaft and turned over as he went down. He did not make any outcry. I came down to the ground landing and told Jas. Hamilton there was a man fell down the shaft. As I started to go down the shaft the cager hollered up a man had fallen down. I and some more men went down and found him dead on the bottom. We carried him onto the cage and hoisted him to the top. It had not been more than fifteen minutes from the time I first saw him until he fell down the shaft. He appeared to be looking around the shaft and did not move around much."

Cal Vanvadall, the engineer, states: "This man had been in the habit of coming to the mine once in a while, coming into the engine-room and talking with me. I had seen him on the day he was killed but he had come into the engine-room."

Chas. Bradford, cager, states: "I had just put on a car and belled the cage away when the man fell on the top of the cage, breaking one arm of the bonnet. The bonnet fell down, and the man into the bottom of the shaft. I thought it was a rock that had fallen down the shaft. I was told it was a man. I went over to him and he was dead. I went to the boss and told him, but when we got back they had taken him up."

Wm. Stark, boss driver, who was also on the bottom, says when the man hit the bottom he breathed once and died. He rubbed the dust off his face and saw it was Alberty, then

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gathered up his papers and pencil, laid them on his body and helped take him up the mine.

Leon Russell, a top man, stated: "I saw the man coming while I was going out with a car of rock; when I came back after dumping the rock he was standing at the north gate at the ground landing. Another car of rock came up; after I had dumped it and came back he was standing on the dirt landing and was leaning on the hopper, which is about eight feet from the shaft. As I came back with the empty he stepped across the track out of my way and leaned against a timber at the edge of the shaft. I went out on the dump with a load. I spoke to him as I passed as I had known him all my life. When I came back Alberty was gone. Jim Hamilton then told me a man had fallen down the shaft, and asked me what he had been doing up on the dirt landing. I said he had some papers and a pencil in his hand, but he had not written anything that I know of. Jim told me to go and see if he had left a note, but could not find anything."

Jno. Latta, top man, stated: "I saw a man walking around as though he had something to do with the mine. When he came to the dirt landing he said 'Hello,' and went over to the shaft and leaned against a timber looking down the shaft. As I belled the cage away he stepped back from the shaft. The next car that came up he was leaning against a timber again. I asked him if he wanted to cross. He said 'No.' I went about my work and heard the weighman holler a man had fallen down the shaft. I went back to the dirt landing and he was not there. I went down the shaft and helped get him up."

This was a peculiar accident, and it seems the poor fellow lost his balance by looking down the shaft and fell in.

34. Fatal accident to Samuel Grivette, April 13, 1907, at mine No. 17 of the Wear Coal Company. He was hurt by a premature explosion of shot. This accident was not considered serious at the time. He was taken to the hospital, where he died April 20, 1907.

35. Fatal accident to Fred Lance, April 25, 1907, at mine No. 8 of the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company. He was employed as a driver, and was killed about 7:25 A. M. While coming out with his first trip he got under the trip in some manner.

Felix Murphy, the mine foreman, who was standing close to where the accident occurred, on the straight east entry, states: "I was looking for the other driver who comes out that way when the trapper called to me that Fred was under the trip. I ran back and found the mule had got unhitched. I could not see him under the first car, so I crawled up on the car and saw him at the read end of the second car, between the car and the rib. He was lying face up, and his feet in front of him, as though he had tried to brace himself. He was dead when I got to him. The entry where he was driving in is called the south-

east diagonal. The drivers are all supposed to stop and get a signal to see if they can come out or not. When the drivers want to stop, they usually slide a little slack on the rail, and this stops their trip. They never have any trouble stopping their trip here, as the grade is not steep enough to require much force to stop. In this entry where he had drove there are five drivers and they follow each other out."

36. Fatal accident to Peter Buffagni, May 2, 1907, at the M. K. & T. mine No. 8. He was a young man eighteen years of age, and was killed by a fall of rock fifty by twenty-five feet, twelve feet thick. It would have been hard to determine by sounding whether this rock was loose or not, and it is thought this poor boy did not know the rock was loose or dangerous. From all indications he had his place timbered well, as there were a great many props under this rock, but it was such an extraordinary rock that timbers would not hold it. In fact, his whole place caved in within about ten feet of the face. From the condition of his place it would seem that he had been loading a car, and when he heard the rock starting to come he started to run to get out on the entry, and got under the rock about nineteen or twenty feet. If he had stayed up close to the face where he was working he would have been saved. We had to drill holes into the rock and shoot in order to get his body out from under it.

37. Fatal accident to March Chiri, May 19, 1907, at mine No. 9 of the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company.

Statement made by Willmer Wright, shot-firer: "We had fired the rooms alternately until we got to the last switch on entry leaving the back entry; when we got there we sat down to take a rest. He said he would go and fire the straight entry and would light the back entry, and we were to let each other know when we were ready to fire. He hollered to me and said when we were ready, light up. I then lit four shots and came to the curtain where I had sat. I looked through to see if I could see him. Did not see him but heard him walking. I had got in the dark. I got back and lit my lamp, then went on and fired the other two places and went to the switch where we were to meet. I would think it was about ninety feet. I waited three or four minutes and he did not come; his shots had went. I then tried to go and look for him, but could not go as the smoke was too warm. I went through into the diagonal and sat down to wait for him. We had talked of meeting further down the entry. I went down there and he did not come, then went to the bottom to look for help. I called up for help. Just then the shot-firer from the other side came out. We went back to look for him. We went past the last room and through the cross-cut into the back entry. I told the men with me what we had agreed upon; they thought he was looking for me; we then came out to the parting. I sat down so that if he came along I would know it. The other boys had went to the bottom



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to see if he had gone out. They came back and said that he had not gone out, so we went back, and as I knew about where he was, we went to the last place he had fired and found him. He was laying on his face and was dead. When we went into the mine to start to fire everything was all right and plenty of air to carry away the smoke."

Upon investigation I found he had been smothered in the seventh west off the northwest diagonal, in which there are nine rooms working. He was found in room No. 13, smothered, at about five o'clock in the evening. He was what is called an extra shot-firer, and was acting as an extra shot-firer at the time of his death. He was a miner and worked in room No. 7, in the entry where he was killed. The night he was killed was the third shift he had worked as extra shot-firer, and had given good satisfaction. The distance from the entry to where the body was found was twenty-five feet and to the nearest cross-cut was seven feet, making in all, from entry to cross-cut, thirty-two feet. He had fired all of the entry and should have been ready to go across to the back entry when he was overcome by the smoke.

38. Fatal accident to Hugh Madden, May 10, 1907, at mine No. 9 of Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company. He was about twenty-five years of age, and was killed by a fall of rock in his room off the second west off the first south on the west side, the third room in the entry. The rock was about eight by eight feet and four inches thick. He had cut a horse-back and was opening up inside; had his place about sixteen feet wide. There was a slip running across his place, and the rock broke off at the rib and tapered out to this slip.

39. Fatal accident to Thos. Short, May 17, 1907, at the C. C. & C. mine No. 31. He was killed by a fall of rock. He was married and leaves a wife and four children.

40. Fatal accident to John Goes, May 21, 1907. He was a miner, thirty-six years of age, and leaves a family of four children. He was injured by a rock five by five feet and thirteen inches thick falling on him, causing his death two days later.

41. Fatal accident to Joe Frere, June 10, 1907, at the Devlin & Miller mine. Below are the statements given by the men who were at the mine when this accident occurred:

Jacob Buckley states: "At 10:25 Joe Frere came to the shaft. I asked him what he was doing there. He said, 'I thought I would come out and help the boys out.' I said to him, 'Joe, I would not go down if I was you; the boys have been up and got a drink and took a rest and have been down about an hour, and Elmer said they would be done in about an hour.' Then he said, 'I will go down, and if I only fire one pair of entries it will help them out.' He went down about fifteen minutes to ten. I went about my work until the bell rang, at ten o'clock. I hoisted the boys up. I asked Elmer Porphur



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where Joe was. He seemed to be surprised, and said, 'I will have to go look for him.' I then went and got Jim Fox. Elmer and Fox then went down and were gone about an hour and had not found him. I went and got some more help and let them down. I had always slowed the fan down about twenty minutes to four. It had been slowed down about seven hours. The regular shot-firers had been getting done in about five hours."

Elmer Porphur stated: "I had fired the east side and got done about 9:25, then came on top and got a drink and took a rest for about ten minutes. I went down and then went on the west side and started to fire the west side. I had fired the first and second north, seventh and eighth south, and all other entries only the first south and the entry where Joe was killed; then started to go into the straight west and I got within about 150 feet from where he was found. I said to my butt, 'There is no shots in here,' as the road was covered with dust and rock. I said to the man that the rails were all pulled out and as we found after them I thought that we had better not go any farther, as we might get down in it. I thought the man who had said there were shots there had made a mistake. We then came back and fired the first south and other entries there and then went on top, when the night-watchman asked me where Joe was. I asked him 'What Joe?' He told me Joe Frere was down in the mine. We then went down the mine to look for him. We went into the seventh south to the last room, where I had a windy shot, then to the sixth west off of the seventh south. We then went back south in the west and found the shots had not been fired. I came out, and as I was tired I fell down. I sat there for a while, and then I went into the straight west, came out again and took a rest, and went into the back northwest and found some water. I did not go through this. I then tried to go in the first room in the back southwest. Jim Fox told me the room was stopped. I came out and tried to go into the second room but could not do so on account of the damp. We then came on top and got some canvas and phoned for Pete McCall, the superintendent. Four of us then went down and took a mule and started to put up a curtain into the two rooms and go in about fifteen feet past them, when McCall got there. Thos. Fox started into room. McCall stopped him, and said, 'Don't go too far ahead of the air-current.' Just then Fox found him dead. From the time I tried to go into the straight west until I came on top was about fifty minutes. The general condition of the west side of the mine I found rather dry."

Joe Frere was a young married man; had been firing shots there, but had laid off on this night; then came to the mine about ten o'clock and went down and into this place where he was found dead, without letting the other shot-firers know. This was a very unusual thing to do. It would appear as



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though he had went into a body of gas and lit it and then became overcome with the after-damp, as the air in the mine was very foul at this time, nearly all the shots having been fired. Joe was a first-class shot-firer, and it is hard to explain why he had gone down and in at this hour without letting the other shot-firers know.

42. Fatal accident to Chas. Greene, June 10, 1907, at mine No. 6 of Hamilton Coal Company. He was killed by a fall of rock in his room. The rock was seven by three and one-half feet, and fourteen inches thick. It was what we call a pot rock. He was a married man, about forty-five years of age, and a practical miner. He was dead before the men got him out from under the rock.

43. Fatal accident to John Bullock, June 21, 1907, at mine No. 18 of Western Coal and Mining Company. He was killed by a rock seven by five feet and fourteen inches thick falling on him. It was a pot rock. He was about fifty-eight years of age and had worked for this company for about eighteen years. His son, who was working with him, ran and told some men, who came and lifted off the rock. He lived until seven o'clock that evening but was unconscious all the time.

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1. Fatal accident to Sid Sampson (colored), July 8, 1907, at the Mayer Coal Company's mine. He was killed by a fall of rock seven by four feet and ten inches thick which fell on him. He was a married man, twenty-seven years of age.

2. Fatal accident to Jno. Cline, July 12, 1907, at C. C. & C. mine No. 3. He was employed as one of the shift bosses sinking the mine, and in climbing down on the buntons after the shots had been fired, one of them gave away and he fell to the bottom and was killed. Upon holding an investigation and taking the testimony of a great number of men working there, the evidence showed that it had been a common practice for the men to go down on the buntons. The testimony also showed that the mine was well timbered, and it looked well timbered when I inspected it, shortly after the accident occurred. In going down it would seem that he started down too soon, not allowing enough time for the smoke to be cleared out, and not thinking that the buntion had been nearly knocked out with the shot, until his weight came on it and it gave away, allowing him to fall to the bottom.

3. Fatal accident to Wm. Wallace, and Robt. Hardy, August 27, 1907, at C. C. & C. mine No. 18. They were both killed by a fall of rock which measured about seventy-five by twelve feet and three feet thick. Hardy was twenty-eight years of age and Wallace twenty-seven; both of them were married and leave one child each. They and Thos. Patterson were working together, pulling pillars in the second south off the second east.

Thos. Scott, the foreman, states: "I had been in the place



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about 10:15 Monday and talked with the men working there. They had pulled two stumps on the right hand side of the entry. I told them not to fire any more on that side. I also told them to put in plenty of timber so as to keep everything safe. I called Robt. Hardy; we sat down together on the empty. I told them as they were working under the section road to put in plenty of cribs when they had taken the coal out. Hardy asked me what I would pay for the work. I told him I would pay them a shift apiece. He said, 'All right.' I went out and ordered six cars of props sent in to them, which was done. They had built five cribs and had started on the sixth one, and I told them to keep it well propped and themselves safe. They had not ordered any props on Tuesday, the day of the accident. When I heard of the accident I sent three company men in to help get them out, and after reporting the accident I went into their place. They had got Hardy out but they had to dig down to the bottom to get Wallace out." Thos. Patterson stated, under oath, that he worked with the two men that got killed and the boss had agreed to give each of them a shift to put in cribs, and that they had always got all the props they needed when they ordered them, and they did not think the place was dangerous where this large rock fell. Then he, Wm. Halstead, Jack Heslop and James O'Hara, all told of how they shoveled coal off Hardy, and how they had to dig in the bottom before they could get Wallace out, and of the gruesome and heart-rending task it was digging down in the bottom to get them out. Patterson stated further how they had timbered the place well and carefully farther back, where it was more dangerous. As they did not think it was dangerous where they were working, they had been in no hurry to put any cribs in.

4. Fatal accident to Robt. Sanders, at C. C. & C. mine No. 31, October 7, 1907. He was out on the dirt dump at the top of the mine dumping dirt, when the dump gave way. He fell to the ground, receiving injuries which caused his death that evening.

5. Fatal accident to Clem Marsh, October 14, 1907, at the M. K. & T. mine No. 15. He was a single man, thirty-six years of age, employed as a shot-firer in this mine. He got killed by losing his way and going back on a shot, when it went off unexpectedly.

6. Fatal accident to H. A. Hefton, October 19, 1907, at the Pittsburg Coal Company's mine. He was mine foreman, was married, and left a wife and seven children. The accident occurred while he was coming up the shaft on the north cage with some bent rails. The cage dumped and his head was caught between the cage and cribbing, killing him instantly.

Chas. Soap states, under oath: "After we had put the rails on the cage he got on the top of the cage. I told him to get on the cage but he said he would ride the top. I stood at the bell lever to signal the engineer in case of accident. When I heard

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a noise in the shaft, I belled the engineer to stop the cage. I hollered and got no answer, then I climbed up the buntions and there I found him dead, with his head fastened between the cage and the cribbing.

A. C. Stalle and W. F. Matten, miners, verified this statement.

7. Fatal accident to John Nestnik, October 29, 1907, at the M. K. & T. Coal Department. He was a single man, twenty-three years of age, and born in Austria. He was killed by a fall of rock.

8. Fatal accident to James McFadden, November 7, 1907, at mine No. 6 of the Dickson's Coal Company. He was killed while shot-firing by an explosion. (Will be found under head of "Explosions.")

9. Fatal accident to John Lightsey (colored), November 16, 1907, at C. C. & C. mine No. 15. He was a married man, forty years of age. Was killed in his room by a fall of rock seven by four feet and six inches thick. The rock broke off at the face. It appeared as though he was loading his car when the driver hollered to him to push out his car. He did not answer. The driver then went into his room and found him buried beneath the fall of rock. Jno. Harrison, a miner, also went in, and they found him lying there dead under the rock.

10. Fatal accident to Frank Satori, November 22, 1907, at mine No. 1 of the Nevius Coal Company. He was employed as a miner, and was killed instantly by a rock eight by four feet and two feet four inches thick. He was working in the first west off the main south. When Harry White and some other men got to him he was dead, his body all doubled up under the rock.

11. Fatal accident to Frank Grossell, November 29, 1907, at mine No. 14 of the Western Coal and Mining Company. He was a married man, and left a wife and one child. The rock which killed him was five by five feet and six inches thick. He was killed in the fourth north back entry on the east side, while drilling a hole.

Chas. Mercer, who works close by, said he heard a man hollo and he ran through the cross-cut, found the rock on him and tried to lift it but could not, and he got two other men. They could not lift it, so they went for more help.

Frank Gardner, the mine foreman, states: "I had been measuring in his place. I did not think there was any danger, for I sat under this rock in measuring his yardage five minutes before the rock fell. I was close by when I heard there was a man under a rock. I and three others went in and found three men there trying to get it off of him. We got the rock off of him but he was unconscious. We carried him about twenty-five feet, put some canvas in a car and took him on top and he died."

This is another very plain case of the danger of mining, as



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not only the miner who got killed, but the mine foreman as well, did not think this was dangerous.

12. Fatal accident to Frank Grocel, December 2, 1907, at mine No. 14 of the Western Coal and Mining Company. He was killed by a fall of rock while at work in his entry.

13. Fatal accident to Port Dewey, December 13, 1907, at mine No. 7 of the Scammon Fuel Company. He was employed as a shot-firer. He was twenty-five years of age and married. He got burned by a windy shot or one that threw fire. His burns were very slight around the face, but was burned internally, which caused his death on December 20, 1907.

14. Fatal accident to Wm. Jenkins, January 3, 1908, at the Hamilton & Grant mine close to Pittsburg. He was a young man twenty years of age, and was killed by a fall of rock seven by three feet and six inches thick, in his room in the first north entry off the west—room 8. At one side of the rock was a roll and it broke off at the other side at the face of the coal. There were two props under the rock. It seems from the evidence given that he was in the act of propping the rock when it fell on him.

Abe Clark, the water bailer, states: "I had been in there and taken four tanks of water out of the room, about nine o'clock. When I had taken the last tank out I told him that rock was bad, and he either ought to pull it down or put props under it, as I would not go under the rock to get the water laying there. He said he would either pull it down or prop it up. When I left the room he was throwing props in towards the face. Between twelve and one o'clock I found him under the rock. I got some men to help me and we took him out."

15. Fatal accident to A. O. Mattox, January 22, 1908, at C. C. & C. mine No. 15. He was employed as cager and was caught between the cage and the ring timbers. He was twenty-five years of age, married, and left a wife and three children. They had attempted to cage a car, and the foot-rest of dog on cage caught between the bottom and the end-gate and held the car fast. He and another cager had sat down on the cage and put their feet on the car to push it back, when for some reason the cage was hoisted and Mattox was caught and killed.

Emile Lore stated under oath: "Mattox, who was a cager on the east side, had started to cage a car, and the dog on cage caught on the end of the car. Mattox and I sat down on the cage and put our feet against the car and pushed it off of the cage. Just then the cage was taken away. I clung to the fenders and came up with the cage, which was partly dumped over. Mattox was partly on the cage and partly off, hanging over the end. The cage was taken up about twelve feet from the bottom. They stopped the cage and then let it back to the bottom. As the cage started back Mattox fell off to the bottom of the shaft. When the cage landed and I got to my feet I found Mattox practically dead."



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Edward Shealds and Emile Wall corroborate this statement.

John Scott, the engineer, makes this statement under oath: "I got the signal to hoist the cage. When I started the cage away from the bottom I thought it was light, and tried to stop the cage, then stuck on the ring timber; got a signal to lower the cage back, which I did. When I landed cage on the bottom the cagers spoke through the pipe and told me there was a man hurt."

According to the statements given here by the cagers and men working around the cage, there was no signal, and as the engineer swore he received a signal to start, it was very hard to determine the cause of this accident.

16. Fatal accident to Jno. Carmeis, January 29, 1908, at mine No. 5 of the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company. He was a married man and had one child. He was killed by a fall of rock while at work in his place in the fourth east entry off the third north entry on the east side. The rock was about five by five feet and was a pot rock. It feathered out on all sides and was about eight inches thick in the center. It would seem that he was mining off a shot in the cross-cut when the rock fell on him. He had been working in this place about one month.

Louis Data, who worked with him, said: "I had gone to the face to start the cut and he had started to mine the shot off in cross-cut and had not worked long when the rock fell. I called for help. Some men came to my assistance and we got it off of him."

17. Fatal accident to Pete Trione, February 4, 1908, at mine No. 1 of the Fidelity Coal Company. He was killed by a fall of rock in his place. He was mining off a shot, when a rock eleven by eight feet and ten inches thick fell on him, killing him instantly. He was thirty-three years of age.

18. Fatal accident to Eugene Howell, February 6, 1908, at mine No. 11 of the J. R. Crowe Coal Company. He was killed by being caught in the water-wheel of the pump. He was thirty years of age, and left a wife and three children. He was trying to fix the wheel while it was in motion, and his clothes became caught on a screw on the shaft.

Joe Atchison states: "I was standing within about ten feet of him and told him to take off his coat or he would get caught. He did not pay any attention to me. Shortly after that his coat got caught in the wheel, and as he started to go he called 'Stop the engine.' I told him I could not. I watched him for a short while. I was excited and did not know what to do. I ran to the shaft, which is a quarter of a mile away, and told the engineer to stop the pump. The engineer went as fast as he could to stop the engine, but he was dead."

J. W. Frauter, engineer, states: "I was at work hoisting when Joe Atchison came and told me that Eugene was caught in the wheel. I ran out of the engine-room and around the

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corner of the blacksmith shop. After I had turned the corner I could see the man turning on the shaft of the wheel. I ran as fast as I could, but I expect it took me about two minutes from the time I left the engine until I got to the pump-house, and as Mr. Atchison is old and crippled with rheumatism, I would judge from the time he was caught in the wheel until I got to the pump-house was about twelve minutes. When I stopped the pump I went over to Eugene and found he was dead. I was excited, and as I ran so hard coming over I was unable to take him loose. Just then I saw John Ackley, the weigh boss, coming towards the pump-house. I turned away and left Mr. Ackley get him loose as best he could."

John Ackley makes statement: "After hearing somebody holler, looking out the door of the weigh-room I could see a man caught on the shaft of the pump wheel and the engineer running towards him. I ran down-stairs and started towards the pump-house as fast as I could go. When I got there Eugene Howell was fast in the shaft of the water-wheel and dead. The engineer had stopped the wheel and was going back to the shaft. I asked him to help get the man loose. He said he could not do it. I took my knife, and between cutting his clothes and pulling them I got him loose. I then told the engineer to phone to the office to Mr. Gray. We took the man over to the shaft and later took him home."

19. Fatal accident to Ben Bloomfield, February 7, 1908, at mine No. 8 of the Cherokee Coal Company. He was killed by a fall of rock. He was thirty-three years of age and married. The accident happened in his entry in the fifth west off the south diagonal on the west side. He was killed about eight o'clock in the morning, by a rock twelve by five feet, one foot thick on one side and feathered out on the other side. His butt was inside at the face, working. After having helped clean up the brushing shot, Ben was sinking a tie so as to put in a short pair of rails. He knocked out a prop, and in about three or four minutes the rock fell.

Dominic Pallio, who works in the back entry, heard the rock fall; paid no attention to it, as there were two men working in that entry, until he was told there was a man under the rock. He and some other men then got him out.

20. Fatal accident to Thos. Walker, February 10, 1908, at mine No. 1 of the Nevius Coal Company. He was killed by falling down the shaft, a distance of 120 feet. He was married, and about forty years of age. A car of dirt was hoisted on the west cage. Mr. Walker helped the top man off with the car to the north side of the shaft, pushed the car of dirt a short distance, then reached over and took hold of an empty that was standing there and began pulling it toward the shaft, going backward and into the east side of the shaft, pulling the car down with him.

W. R. Smith says: "Mr. Walker had helped me with a car



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of dirt off the west cage; gave him a good start and told him to keep it going until he got over the hill. When I came back he had fallen down the shaft."

A cager says: "When he fell to the bottom he gasped twice but never spoke."

Victor Loss says: "I was at the scales. I heard Mr. Walker holler and looked towards the shaft and saw his hands holding onto the car as the car went into the shaft after him. I had been on top several times, and it is the custom when they hoist dirt to back onto the cage with empty car. The dirt is pushed off the cage in the opposite direction from which the coal goes and to the opposite of the cage and to the opposite of the shaft from where the weighman weighs the coal. The custom has been for the weighman to push the dirt off of the cage, follow across the cage, give the top man a start with the loaded car, take hold of an empty, pulling it onto the cage, he preceding it, backing up across the cage to the side of the shaft where he weighs the coal; so the only way to account for this accident is that in backing back and pulling the empty after him he forgot which cage was up and backed into the shaft."

21. Fatal accident to Gus Bergman, February 18, 1908, at the Carr Coal Company's mine, located at Leavenworth. He was a married man, and was killed in his place, while working, by a fall of sulfur.

22. Fatal accident to Clyde Duffield, February 18, 1908, at mine No. 1 of the Cherokee Crescent Coal Company. The cause of his death was heart failure. He had gone below on this morning, and at about 7:20 was sitting on the end of a pit car cleaning a mule's collar, preparing to harness his mule, when he fell over very suddenly. They brought him on top and he died.

23. Fatal accident to Patrick McFarlin, February 19, 1908, at the Edward Hotchkiss mine, at Burlingame, Kan. He was an old miner and was lying on his side mining. He was about fifteen feet from his roadway. He ceased work and died. The doctors pronounced heart failure as the cause of his death.

24. Fatal accident to Thos. Moffit and Andrew McCluskey, February 20, 1908, at mine No. 15 of the Western Coal and Mining Company. (Report is under head of "Explosions.")

25. Fatal accident to Jacob Detman, March 5, 1908, at the LaBelle Coal Company's mine. He was killed in his room by a fall of rock six by five feet and six inches thick. He was a young man, twenty years of age. He was working in the first east off the north, and had just driven his room through a horseback. There was a roll angling across the room. The rock fell off this roll and caught him. Ed. Fatheringill and W. D. Ruggles, who had been in his room just a short while before the accident occurred, said that he was mining off a shot. Ruggles heard a fall and holloed to him and he holloed back

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that it was a fall of coal. Shortly after that there was another fall, and he holloed to him again but he did not answer. Went over into his room and found him under the rock.

26. Fatal accident to Michael Dsenicki, March 13, 1908, at the Carr Coal Company's mine, located at Leavenworth. He was a married man and was killed by a fall of slate while at work in his entry.

27. Fatal accident to Jno. Motts, March 20, 1908, at mine No. 17 of the Wear Coal Company. (Report is under head of "Explosions.")

28. Fatal accident to Fred Froller, March 25, 1908, at mine No. 20 of the Wear Coal Company. He was overcome by smoke and found smothered to death. He was forty-three years of age, and left a wife and six children. Oscar Fabero, who was with him, was alive when found. They were found in the second east entry on the north side.

Albert Ray, the night-watchman, states: "At about seven o'clock I first noticed that there had been no shots being fired, and I spoke to Gross about it. Gross went to the shaft and rapped on the steam-pipe to see if he could make the shot-firers hear him, but could not do so. Gross then went over to the air-shaft and listened, but could not hear any shots going off, and we then tried to get Mr. Kirkwood, the superintendent, over the phone. We could not get him, and upon the suggestion of Gross I hitched up my pony and went after Thos. Graham and brought him to the shaft, and Mr. Dunlap came with him. We went down and found them. Froller was dead but Fabero was alive. We brought them to the bottom and then sent for a doctor."

H. M. Gross corroborated this statement.

Thos. Graham stated, under oath:

"I was in bed when Mr. Ray came to my house and called me. I asked him what he wanted and he said 'Come on out and I will tell you.' After hearing the trouble I called Mr. Dunlap. We then went to the shaft. I then went to the air-shaft to see if there was any smoke coming out. I went back to the shaft and we then went down and into the first east entry, and as soon as we went through the door I knew they had fired the entry, as it was full of smoke. We searched for them in there but did not find them. We then went to the second east. When we came to the second room we found Fabero. We picked him up and put him in an empty car. I looked up the entry and we could see a light. We went towards the light and found Froller dead. He was about seventy-five feet from where we found Fabero. We carried him back to the car and put him in also, and pushed them to the bottom. We did not take them to the top, but laid them on the bottom and started to work on Fabero to revive him. After the doctor came we took him on top."

Mr. Dunlap corroborated this statement.

Oscar Fabero, shot-firer, stated: "We had left four shots in



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the second east off of the north on account of smoke and went to the north and fired the shots up there. We were out of the second east for about twenty minutes, then went to fire the shots we had left. My buttty went to the face to tamp the shots. I was sitting under the brushing waiting for him. We found the smoke very hot and started out, when I fell. I did not know any more about it."

Wm. Kirkwood, the mine foreman, stated: "I had doors on all of the entries and curtains hung from the same frame, on account of the doors being so close to the face. The shot-firers could leave them open, as they would have been broken by the shots and the curtains would hold the current of air. I had ordered them to close the doors on the first entries as soon as they had fired them."

Jno. Gilday inspected this mine the morning after this explosion and found they had fired one entry on the south side and all of the north side except the two places in the second east where they were found at about nine or ten o'clock. From the evidence given by the shot-firer it is a clear case of them going back into the hot smoke too soon, not allowing it time enough to get cleared out.

29. Fatal accident to Jas. Williamson, June 8, 1908, at mine No. 8 of the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company. He was a single man about thirty years of age, and was killed by a fall of rock eleven by seven and one-half feet and three to seven inches thick. He was a driver, and on this day was acting as boss driver. He was on the southwest diagonal parting, standing between the two tracks. An empty trip came in on the empty track. When the driver started out with the full trip he ran and attempted to get on the last car, when two timbers broke, which let down the rock that killed him. The cross-bars were hitched in on the loaded side, with legs under them on the side the empty track was on. This parting had been made some time last fall. One of the cross-bars broke about two feet from the leg and the other cross-bar swung off of the leg and appears to have broke after it came down. The cross-bar which broke close to the leg was partly rotten.

Tony Carrusso, a miner, stated under oath: "I was sitting on the sixth car waiting for the next driver. The driver who was starting had a five-car trip. The boss driver was standing between the two tracks. I did not see any more until I heard the man holler and saw the rock fall. I ran and called for help. There were some men there but they went past and did not help me. Some other men came and helped to get him out." This statement was interpreted by Joe Sia.

"Joe Holler, a driver, stated under oath: "When I drove into the parting I saw Tony Carrusso, Mike Vandever, William Glennen and John Samples trying to raise the rock. I got a prop and put it under the rock and helped raise it and get him out. There was scarcely any life left in him."



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This statement was verified by the other men who were there.

Edward Moore, the mine foreman, stated under oath: "I had gone over this part of the mine after the suspension and had some loose rock pulled down." When questioned if he examined this parting, he answered he did, and thought it was safe.

John Giles, a miner, stated: "I got my shoulder and foot hurt with the rock which killed Jas. Williams. I had ridden out on the trip with the driver from the entry I work in to the parting, and lay on the car I had ridden out on waiting for the driver to come in from the bottom. When the parting driver came in, Jim was in the parting driver's trip. As the driver came onto the parting he jumped out and stood between the two tracks. The driver started out with his loaded trip and Jim jumped on the bumpers of the car on which I lay and was bending over me when the rock fell and knocked him down. It then hit me on the right shoulder and foot. The car I was on up-ended. The front wheels jumped the track. I pulled my foot out but Jim was under the rock. I waited until some men came to help. I could not help them. I went on out to the bottom. I did not hear the timbers breaking or the rock cutting or chipping before it fell."

NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS.

JULY 1, 1906, TO JUNE 30, 1907.

1. Andy Nelson was slightly burned by gas July 3, 1906. Mayer's Coal Company.
2. A. C. Duncan was burned by gas July 12, 1906. Southwest Development Company.
3. Nick Fireon and B. Fireon burned by gas July 12, 1906. Southwest Development Company mine No. 8. Their place was just through a horseback.
4. Andrew Hinton. While riding in on the first trip the car jumped the track, knocking out a prop, letting some slate fall, which fell on him and broke his collar-bone. This occurred on July 25, 1906, at the Western Coal and Mining Company's mine No. 7.
5. Carr mine, at Leavenworth, July 14, 1906. Albert Thomas, a miner, had his leg hurt by a fall of coal.
6. Riverside mine No. 2, at Leavenworth, July 17, 1906. L. Leonard, a top man, while pushing slate to the dump, was thrown over the dump and received some injuries.
7. Kansas state mine, July 20, 1906. Chas. Rice, one of the inmates, had his hand mashed by a fall of coal; lost about ten days' work.
8. Kansas state mine, August 1, 1906. Chas. Wrights, one of the inmates, was injured by a fall of rock.
9. Fleming Coal Company, August 9, 1906. Jules Leroy,



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while handling giant powder; the cap exploded, knocking out one of his eyes.

10. Fleming Coal Company, August 4, 1906. Edward Richards, a driver, had his hand mashed.

11. Cherokee Crescent Coal Company, August 24, 1906. Floyd Hudson was burned by gas. His place was driven through a horseback and partly opened up.

12. Cherokee Crescent Coal Company, August 6, 1906. Frank Buffia received some injuries from a fall of rock.

13. Cherokee Crescent Coal Company, August 25, 1906. Ed Pattaton was hurt by rock falling down the shaft.

14. Cherokee Crescent Coal Company, August 31, 1906. Radolph Jellen was hurt by a fall of rock.

15. Devlin & Miller mine, August 23, 1906. Joe Malaker was hurt by a fall of rock.

16. C. C. Cockerill Coal Company mine No. 3. Chas. Ritter, employed as shift boss, was burned with gas. He knew the gas was there but did not think it extended out so far and got too close to it with the naked light.

17. Southern Coal Company mine No. 5, September 7, 1906. Geo. Tulip, a miner, fifty years of age, was hurt by a fall of rock.

18. Southern Coal Company mine No. 5, September 17, 1906. Jas. Pryor, sr., a miner, sixty-five years of age, was hurt by a fall of rock.

19. M. K. & T. mine No. 8, September 22, 1906. Wm. Young and Al Bighan were burned with gas.

20. Cherokee Crescent Coal Company, September 28, 1906. Simon Eccli, a miner, fifty-seven years of age, was hurt by a fall of rock.

21. Home mine No. 1, Leavenworth, September 28, 1906. Jno. Murray, a miner, was hurt by a fall of rock.

22. Columbus Coal Company, September 11, 1906. Thomas McLoed got his hand caught between two cars.

23. Standard Coal Company, Scranton, September 15, 1906. Henry Gilley, a miner, while lying on his side mining, was caught by a fall of rock and badly bruised.

24. Cherokee Crescent mine No. 1, October 22, 1906. Gus Hearby was hurt by a fall of rock.

25. La Belle Coal Company, October 4, 1906. Alfonso Mar-ralo was hurt by the coal falling on him while mining off a shot.

26. J. R. Crowe Coal Company, October 8, 1906. Frank Garroff was burned by gas.

27. C. C. C. & Company mine No. 18, October 17, 1906. Jno. Anderson was hurt by a fall of rock.

28. M. K. & T. mine No. 11, October 19, 1906. Pit Griglione was burned by powder exploding.

29. M. K. & T. mine No. 11, October 19, 1906. J. E. Bartlett was hurt by a fall.



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30. Home-Riverside mine No. 2, Leavenworth, October 7, 1906. C. Armstrong was hurt by a fall of rock.
31. Home-Riverside mine No. 3, Leavenworth, October 16, 1906. Geo. Hodapp was hurt by a fall of coal.
32. M. K. & T. mine No. 8, October 20, 1906. W. A. Smith, a top man, had his arm crushed by a railway car.
33. Devlin & Miller mine, October 23, 1906. Wm. Gayden, employed as a driver, was hurt by being caught between two cars.
34. Carr mine, Leavenworth, November 20, 1906. Mat Vanoyen was burned by gas.
35. Home-Riverside mine No. 1, Leavenworth, November 12, 1906. C. Angisall had a leg broken by a fall of coal.
36. Home-Riverside mine No. 3, Leavenworth, November 22, 1906. Thos. Jones, a driver, had a leg hurt by the cars.
37. Mayer's Coal Company mine No. 1, November 21, 1906. A. J. Mayers was hurt by a piece of coal falling from the lump car, hitting him on the head.
38. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 42, November 26, 1906. Pete Dessart was hurt by a fall of rock.
39. Mayer's Coal Company mine No. 1, November 29, 1906. Joseph Sanders was hurt by a fall of rock.
40. Bolen-Darnell Coal Company, December 11, 1906. Ln. Lanning, a driver, was hurt while driving.
41. Bolen-Darnell Coal Company, December 7, 1906. Antone Ceglar, a miner, fifty-two years of age, was hurt by a fall of rock.
42. Fidelity Coal Company mine No. 1, December 20, 1906. A. Halms, Rufus Miller, Julius Venason, Emile Betaste, Chas. Treussel, August Treussel, Angelo Betesta, Antone Peas and Burt Lucca were all burned by an explosion of powder which occurred in the bottom of the mine, in the morning before they had gone in to work. August Treussel, Angelo Betaste, Rufus Miller, Antone Peas and Julius Venason received only slight burns; the others were burned more seriously. (Further account of this accident is under the head of "Explosions.")
43. Home-Riverside mine, at Leavenworth, December 9, 1906. West Fiches had his leg hurt by a fall of coal.
44. At Atchison, on December 8, 1906. B. Scott was burned by gas.
45. Home-Riverside mine, Leavenworth, December 31, 1906. S. Gabrick and G. Carter were hurt by a fall of coal.
46. Kansas state mine, December 7, 1906. Walter Harley was hurt by a fall of coal, and lost five days' work. On December 11, 1906, Jas. Barid was hurt by a fall of coal in same mine.
47. Elliott's mine No. 3, Scranton, December 20, 1906. Tim Omara had his collar-bone broken by a fall of rock while at work in his place.
48. M. K. & T. mine No. 8, December 3, 1906. Larengo Perora was burned by gas.



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49. M. K. & T. mine No. 15, December 18, 1906. Elmer Price, a shot-firer, was burned by a windy shot.
50. Mayer's Coal Company, December 5, 1906. Burt Payne was kicked by a mule and had his skull fractured.
51. Cherokee Crescent Coal Company mine No. 1, December 22, 1906. Pete Grinta was burned by gas. His place was just driven through a horseback.
52. Weir Junction mine No. 2, January 14, 1907. Frank Gurrilans had a leg broken by a fall of coal.
53. Mayer's Coal Company mine No. 1, January 13, 1907. J. C. Hanley had a leg broken by a fall of coal.
54. McCormick Coal Company mine No. 1, January 14, 1907. Mike Griglioli had both legs broken by being hit with a flying prop. He was shot-firing at the time.
55. Home-Riverside mine No. 3, Leavenworth, January 4, 1907. A. Wagner was hurt by a fall of slate.
56. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 7, January 27, 1907. Jno. Hess received some injuries by falling from the tippie.
57. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 13, February 21, 1907. Antone Rupar was hurt by cars.
58. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 7, February 21, 1907. Joe Masic was hurt by a fall of rock.
59. At Atchison, February 28, 1907. Walter Hunter was burned.
60. Home-Riverside mine No. 2, Leavenworth, February 2, 1907. H. Dethlepson was slightly hurt by a fall of coal.
61. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 39, March 5, 1907. Len Manning, a driver, got kicked by a mule.
62. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 27, March 23, 1907. C. W. Beck was run over by cars.
63. M. K. & T. mine No. 11, March 20, 1907. Jno. Ryan, the mine foreman, was run over by a loaded car, breaking his leg.
64. M. K. & T. mine No. 6, March 22, 1907. Sam Munce was burned by gas. His place was just driven through a horseback.
65. M. K. & T. mine No. 7, March 27, 1907. Johnny Griffin had an arm broken by getting it caught between gob and a prop.
66. Banister Coal Company mine No. 2, April 4, 1907. Jno. Sweeney, a miner, was very painfully hurt by a rock falling on him while at work in his place.
67. Nevius Coal Company mine, April 6, 1907. A. Baitoff, a cager, got between two cars and was considerably bruised.
68. Nevius Coal Company, April 30, 1907. Clarence Stilwaugh was hurt by a fall of rock.
69. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 12, April 10, 1907. Jno. Johnson was hurt by a fall of rock.



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70. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 13, April 11, 1907. Joseph Dalanci was hurt by a fall of rock.
71. Home-Riverside mine No. 2, Leavenworth, April 29, 1907. M. Brakey had his hand hurt while coupling cars.
72. Wear Coal Company mine No. 19, April 27, 1907. A. Helny was burned by gas.
73. Kansas state mine, April 10, 1907. Durand White, a guard, while in the discharge of his duty, was attacked by convict Jno. Davis, who drove a pick into his side four inches.
74. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 31, May 11, 1907. Joe Harvol was injured by a fall of rock.
75. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 16, May 16, 1907. Joe Limb, sr., was hurt by a fall of rock.
76. Nevius Coal Company mine No. 3, May 20, 1907. Wm. Holts was hurt by a fall of rock.
77. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 31, May 28, 1907. Joe Howert was hurt by a fall of rock.
78. Girard Coal Company, May 28, 1907. Dan Simion and Mike Scalet, employed as shot-firers, were injured by a windy shot. (See account under the head of "Explosions.")
79. M. K. & T. mine No. 15, May 5, 1907. Henry Vidal was hurt by a fall of rock.
80. Mayer's Coal Company mine No. 1, May 6, 1907. Lea Beaurual was hurt by a fall of rock.
81. Norton Coal Company mine No. 3, May 11, 1907. Andrew Braidwood, the mine foreman, was injured by a fall of rock.
82. M. K. & T. mine No. 6, May 13, 1907. Joe Barnnit was hurt by a fall of rock.
83. Clemens Coal Company mine No. 3, May 4, 1907. Wm. Pearson had a leg broken by a fall of rock.
84. Home-Riverside mine No. 1, Leavenworth, May 24, 1907. G. Dellabetta was hurt by a fall of rock.
85. Home-Riverside mine No. 3, Leavenworth, May 31, 1907. F. Young was hurt by a fall of rock.
86. Norton Coal Company, June 4, 1907. Thos Little, sr., had one leg broken while out on the entry.
87. Norton Coal Company mine No. 3, June 15, 1907. Thos. Little, jr., had one leg broken while at work in his place.
88. Fidelity Coal Company mine No. 1, June 20, 1907. Jno. Goley was burned by gas.
89. Cherokee Crescent Coal Company mine No. 1, June 21, 1907. Victor Roefatti was injured by a fall of rock.
90. Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, June 6, 1907. Chas. Reed, employed in sinking air-shaft to mine No. 6, was coming up on bucket, which in some manner became detached from the rope, and fell from the top.
91. Home-Riverside mine No. 3, Leavenworth, June 1, 1907. Jno. Casker, a driver, fell and broke one arm.
92. Southern Coal Company mine No. 5, June 14, 1907.



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David Reed, an old miner, was hurt by a fall of rock while at work in his place.

93. Mayer's Coal Company mine No. 1, June 18, 1907. Geo. Surgart, a driver, was hurt by the tail-chain catching in a tie and the mule swinging around on him.

94. Fidelity Coal Company mine No. 1, June 20, 1907. Joe Mitchell was hurt by a fall of rock.

JULY 1, 1907, TO JUNE 30, 1908.

1. Mayer's Coal Company, July 5, 1907. Wallace Jaxon, a driver, had one of his feet hurt.

2. Kansas state mine, July 3, 1907. Aravon Whitmere, one of the inmates, had three bones of his left foot broken by riding down the incline on a pit car.

3. Home-Riverside mine No. 2, Leavenworth. N. Hitcha had one leg broken by a fall of rock.

4. Sheridan Coal Company mine No. 5, July 12, 1907. Sam McGidery was hurt by a fall of rock.

5. Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, July 28, 1907. Gracoma Vernitti and Gravario Macchari were injured by a fall of rock on the entry.

6. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 3, August 5, 1907. Steve Davis (colored) was hurt by a fall of rock.

7. Gross & Miller's Coal Company, August 1, 1907. Sam Rowley was injured by a fall of coal while mining off a shot.

8. Nevius Coal Company, August 15, 1907. B. Steffani was hurt by a fall of rock.

9. Weir Coal Company mine No. 19, August 20, 1907. Arthur Carr and J. S. Gardner were severely burned by gas. They had gone into an adjoining place to get some tools when they ignited the gas. This mine was just being developed and was not far in from the bottom. After I had made an investigation, I ordered this part of the mine stopped until some doors and curtains were put up to force some air in there. This was done immediately, and when completed it kept this place clear of gas.

10. Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, August 20, 1907. While taking some timbers from across the mine the cage was let down, striking one end of the timber; the other end flew up and hit W. F. Monaghan, a top man, in the face. I took a great deal of testimony, trying to determine why the cage was let down while the men were working at the shaft. The engineer claimed that he had got the signal to start. It was hard to determine whose fault it was.

11. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 14, August 19, 1907. Adolph Leroy was hurt by a fall of rock.

12. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 12, September 18, 1907. Henry Monson had a leg broken by a fall of coal.



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13. Scammon Fuel Company mine No. 7, September 7, 1907. Patrick McCormick was burned by gas.
14. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 42, September 18, 1907. Ed. Norris, a top man, was injured by falling from the lump car.
15. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 31, September 18, 1907. Robt. Miller was hurt by a fall of rock.
16. Jackson-Walker Coal Company, September 27, 1907. Otto Kinkel had one leg broken by a fall of coal.
17. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 18, September 24, 1907. Jas. O'Hara, a driver, got bruised up by running into an empty trip.
18. Malle Coal Company, September 24, 1907. Arthur Malle, owner of the mine, had his back broken by a fall of rock. It was not expected he would live, but he got over it and continues to improve.
19. Clemens Coal Company mine No. 7, October 18, 1907. Wm. Flynn, a miner, was hurt by a fall of rock while at work in his place.
20. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 14, October 16, 1907. W. B. Cunningham, a top man, fell off the dirt dump and was injured.
21. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 14, October 30, 1907. Robt. Grant, who was employed as a driver, was hurt by a fall of rock.
22. M. K. & T. mine No. 7, October 14, 1907. Walter Harman, the weighman, was injured by the cage striking him on the head.
23. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 14, October 18, 1907. Si William, a shot-firer, was injured by a windy shot.
24. Scammon Fuel Company, October 21, 1907. Tob Ross was injured by a fall of rock.
25. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 14, October 30, 1907. Jno. Oberman, a track-layer, was injured by being run over by a trip.
26. McFarlin Coal Company, Burlingame, October 10, 1907. Hugh McFarlin, the owner of the mine, was badly bruised and one hip broken by a fall of rock in the bottom of a new mine.
27. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 42, October 26, 1907. Joe Combo was injured by a fall of rock.
28. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 17, October 26, 1907. James Darrough was burned by gas.
29. Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, October 16, 1907. Tony Kordley was injured by a fall of rock.
30. Hamilton-Grant mine No. 2, October 31, 1907. Wm. Tuck, a miner, was hurt by a fall of rock while at work in his place.
31. Nevius Coal Company mine No. 4, October 7, 1907. Joe Fleming was hurt by a fall of rock.



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32. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 31, October 7, 1907. Wm. Wright was dumping dirt, when the dirt dump gave way and he fell to the ground and was badly injured.

33. Wear Coal Company mine No. 17, October 8, 1907. Emila Boutenour was burned by gas. His place was just in through a horseback.

34. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 15, November 19, 1907. Wm. Coup was hurt by a fall of rock.

35. Dickinson Coal Company mine No. 6, November 21, 1907. Carl Ludica and Joe Gandani, two shot-firers, were severely burned while firing shots.

36. C. C. & C. Company mine No. 17, November 24, 1907. Robt. Linsey, employed as a shot-firer, was injured by a windy shot.

37. M. K. & T. mine No. 15, November 2, 1907. Joe Depratt and Jas. Cowan, two shot-firers, were injured by a windy shot.

38. Norton Coal Company mine No. 3, November 1, 1907. W. S. Pitcock had one of his hands crushed by a fall of rock; had two of his fingers amputated.

39. M. K. & T. mine No. 16, November 11, 1907. Peter Luffin, a shot-firer, was hurt by a shot blowing through on him.

40. J. R. Burnett Coal Company mine No. 1, November 28, 1907. Frank Buterbaugh, a top man, fell from the tippie.

41. Pleasanton coal-mine, near Pleasanton, November 20, 1907. J. W. Edwards had a leg broken by a fall.

42. Robt. Elliott's mine, Scranton, November 13, 1907. Jno. Parker had ankle broken by a fall of rock.

43. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 16, December 20, 1907. Jno. Drummon was severely injured by falling off the tippie.

44. Scammon Fuel Company, December 6, 1907. Pete Simmons was severely injured by a fall of rock.

45. Eureka deep vein mine No. 1, December 2, 1907. Thos. Swofford had his skull fractured by the kick of a mule.

46. Girard Coal Company, December 24, 1907. Wm. Flaherty, a blacksmith, while working at the cage, was injured by falling off.

47. Mayer's Coal Company, December 27, 1907. G. R. Jackson, a driver, had his ankle crushed.

48. M. K. & T. mine No. 8, December 14, 1907. R. R. Cook, employed as a driver, was severely injured by a mule.

49. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 16, December 5, 1907. Luens Manfin was burned by gas.

50. Home-Riverside mine, Leavenworth, December, 1907. Henry Niemeyer was injured by a fall of rock.

51. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 44, December 30, 1907. M. E. Talmer, who was employed as a cager, was severely crushed by the cage coming down on him.

52. Crowe Coal Company mine No. 14, January 3, 1908. Ed Miller, a shot-firer, was hurt by a shot, it having been badly placed.

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53. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 14, January 13, 1908. Frank Conot was hurt by a fall of rock.

54. Carr Coal Company mine, Leavenworth, January 4, 1908. Joe Orskiesvitz was injured by a fall of rock; his back and legs are paralyzed.

55. Dickey-Mulholland mine, January 18, 1908. Henry Sherman was injured by a fall of rock while at work in his room.

56. Scammon Fuel Company mine No. 7, January 6, 1908. Pete Denona had a leg broken by a fall of rock.

57. M. K. & T. Coal Department, January 16, 1908. Joe Ghisland had his collar-bone broken by a fall of rock.

58. Norton Coal Company mine No. 3, January 27, 1908. Sim Lanen had a leg broken, and later it had to be amputated.

59. Eureka deep vein, January 29, 1908. John Henry Williams, employed as shot-firer, was hurt by a windy shot.

60. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, January 6, 1908. Mitchell Houvrglak was injured by a fall of rock.

61. Chappell Coal Company mine No. 3, Scranton, February 1, 1908. Patrick Reynolds was hurt by a fall of rock, bruising him considerably.

62. M. K. & T. mine No. 16, February 4, 1908. Daniel Duffy and J. W. Vergin were burned by gas. A shot missed, and going in to examine it they lit the gas.

63. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 13, February 11, 1908. Sim Harris, a driver, had his hand run over by a car.

64. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 42, February 24, 1908. Geo. Blazer was injured by a fall of rock.

65. Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 14, March 4, 1908. V. Barbero was injured by a fall of rock.

66. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, March 2, 1908. Albert Losito was injured while riding out on the electric motor.

67. M. K. & T. mine No. 16, March 20, 1908. Jas. Cahill was injured by a fall of coal while he was mining off a shot. It broke his arm.

68. Earl & McGregor Coal Company, March 24, 1908. Clyde Clark was injured by a fall of rock.

69. Columbus Coal Company, June 7, 1908. While coupling his cars the mule started up, breaking one leg of Gus Tangye, a driver.

70. Western Coal Mining Company mine No. 14, June 8, 1908. John Kochels was injured by a fall of rock.

71. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, June 17, 1908. Jno. White was injured by a lump of coal falling down the shaft, striking him on the hand.

72. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, June 18, 1908. Soza Martin was injured by a fall of rock in his room.

73. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 42, June 29, 1908. Bert Krowder was injured by a fall of rock.



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EXPLOSIONS.

1. On December 19, 1906, at mine No. 6 of the Hamilton Coal Company, Harry Hedgon, employed as a shot-firer, received a cut in his head while firing shots. On reaching the mine the next day, I procured the following statements from the men who were there when this accident occurred.

C. E. Layton, the other shot-firer at mine No. 6, made the following statement under oath: "On the night of December 18, 1906, I was firing the east side of the mine and Harry Hedgon was firing the other side. I was propping a door open when I felt the wind, which blew me about ten feet. I sat there a minute and then realized there had been an explosion, so I started to hunt my butt. I went to the bottom, signaled, was hoisted out, and got the pit boss, Mr. Eadie, and two other fellows. We went down the manway, up the back air-course on the west side. When we came to the first north, found the door torn down. We called, and my butt answered from the straight west entry towards the bottom. We ran towards him and found him standing about 100 feet from the bottom. He was groping along the sides, seemingly hunting his way. He appeared not to know where he was going. He asked, 'What has happened?' His knee and head were badly cut but he was not burned. I know he fired more than one shot at a time that night, and we understood the mine inspector's orders were to fire one shot at a time, and the company had gave us orders to follow this rule. You see, we fire one round around the shaft, then go on top and speed up the fan for an hour; then we go down and fire the next round. We were on our first round when he got hurt, and all the places except two in two entries were fired, so it is very plain he fired more than one shot at a time, as there was more than one shot in each place. We were ordered to fire only one shot in each place on each round except brushing shot. We found one shot that looked a little bad, but I do not know which one caused the explosion, but think it may have been the one. A few props were knocked down and trap-doors knocked out."

Robt. Eadie, mine foreman, stated, under oath: "I gave shot-firers orders to fire one shot at a time. I knew when I went in that he had fired more than one at a time. I mean one shot in a place at a time, and to make second round to get other shots. Statement made by shot-firer Mr. Layton is as near as the case could be stated."

Louis Greenberg, miner at No. 6, stated under oath: "All I can say is that it was caused from a windy shot. Mine is naturally dry but had been sprinkled and was damp that night. I believe it was a windy followed by a firey shot and there was



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powder went off, as powder cans were all torn to pieces, and that is sure there was powder in them or they would not have been torn to pieces by a windy. I went in just after the explosion and that is the way I found it."

After receiving the above statements from the men who had gone down immediately after the explosion occurred, I went down the mine. This is a new mine and is well ventilated, and this order to fire one shot in a place at a time, if carried out, I believe would have prevented this accident. From the evidence obtained and from my examination I felt sure this poor fellow had been firing very rapidly and was too close to the shots when they went off. The mine was not wrecked or damaged to any extent.

2. On the evening of December 20, 1906, I was notified over the telephone of an explosion which occurred that morning at the Fidelity Coal Company mine No. 1, near Stone City. I was in Osage City at the time inspecting the mines there. As soon as I was notified I started, and arrived in Stone City the next morning. Sixteen men had been injured by this explosion. The men had gone in to work, and the powder which they had been carrying in had been ignited in some manner. The names of those who died and those that were badly injured will be found under the head of "Accidents" of that year.

Joseph Ryan, a deputy mine inspector, arrived at the mine a few minutes after the explosion occurred, and helped to get the men out. He had inspected this mine a few days before the explosion occurred and found it in good condition. Jno. Gilday, another deputy mine inspector, had hurried over to the scene of this disaster. The dead and those badly injured were removed to their homes before I arrived. This was the most terrible accident that has happened in the coal-mines of Kansas since that sad disaster at Frontenac nearly twenty years ago.

We proceeded down the mine, in company with Mr. Barret and Superintendent McCann, and made a thorough inspection. We found there was still burned flesh and clothes of the men scattered around. With the assistance of Joseph Ryan, Superintendent McCann and others, we located as nearly as we could the position the men were in when the explosion occurred; what they were doing; the number of cans of powder they had; what the company men were doing who were working around there, and what effect the electric lights and electric motor might possibly have had in starting this explosion, as we had learned some men had claimed the explosion started from the electric motor. And as Joseph Ryan, in company with Mr. Barret and others, had made a test to see if the motor could possibly ignite the powder, they explained how that test had been made.

We then made an investigation as to the effects of this explosion on the mine and found it was not damaged in the least. Some of the empty cars, where the evidence showed powder