

State inspector of coal mines reports

Section 74, Pages 2191 - 2220

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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Biennial Report.

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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN CHEROKEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1910—CONCLUDED.

Office No.....	Average number of employees.						Mining price per ton.....	Under-ground day wage.....	Top day wage.....	Number of 12½ lb. kegs powder....	Number of days worked.....
	Miners.....	Boys.....	Shot firers..	Under-ground day men..	Total under-ground....	Top men....					
1	84	2	2	27	115	12	\$0 72	\$2 62	\$2 36	10,411	179
2				2	2	1					
3	116	4	3	19	142	17				14,452	163
4	121	4	3	19	147	11	72	2 72	2 45	1,667	30
5	67		2	9	78	10	72	2 63	2 39	5,483	116
6	9		1	4	14	5	72	2 59	2 28	1,508	89
7	91	3	2	19	115	23	72	2 59	2 29	14,356	185
8	61	1	2	11	75	10	72	2 58	2 25	10,408	185
9	101	1	2	14	118	14	72	2 71	2 28	17,776	191
10	116	2	3	18	139	18	72	2 56	2 24	20,162	186
11	7		1	3	11	18	72	2 39	2 38	1,598	68
12	52	1	2	7	62	6	72	2 56	2 02½	3,542	130
13											
14	30		2	6	38	7	45	2 75	2 02½	2,000	186
15	40		2	7	49	6	55	2 56	2 02½	4,210	179
16	25		2	7	34	6	40	2 56	2 02½		36
17	30		2	8	40	8	48	2 56	2 02½	1,125	169
18	50		2	8	60	5	65	2 56	2 50	2,940	186
19	75		2	7	84	9	93	2 66	2 50	4,346	189
20	145	2	3	20	170	8	178	2 68	2 15	12,791	173
21	62		2	11	75	7	82	2 66	2 26	4,714	163
22	115		2	13	130	10	140	2 81	2 42	15,409	190
23	94		2	13	109	13	122	2 81	2 44	9,796	149
24	165		2	27	194	12	206	2 56	2 02½	16,350	206
25	60		2	9	71	6	77	2 56	2 02½	3,938	117
26	12		2	14	28	6	34	2 56	2 02½	700	150
27	70		2	12	84	9	93	2 56	2 02½	5,292	167
28	52		2	10	64	10	74	2 56	2 02½	3,222	192
29	140		3	21	164	9	173	2 56	2 02½	17,150	198
30	26		2	4	32	4	36	2 56	2 02½	1,200	120
31											
32	78		2	10	90	6	96	2 60	2 40	9,042	173
33	36		2	14	52	7	59	2 60	2 40	1,941	116
34	152		4	35	191	17	208	2 70	2 30	15,242	183
35	73		2	16	91	8	99	2 75	2 55	6,040	143
36	2			2	4		4	72	2 56	150	168
37											
2,357	20	69	426	2,762	318	3,190				238,961	

* Day work.



COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN OSAGE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1909.

Office No.	NAME OF OPERATOR.	Post-office address.	Number or name of mine.	Mine boss.	Location of mine.
1	Jackson-Walker Coal Co. ①	Osage City	14	Andrew Andreen	2 miles southwest of Scranton.
2	" " ②	"	23	John O. Melia	2½ miles northeast of Osage City.
3	" " ③	"	29	Geo. Skidmore	3 miles north of Osage City.
4	Labor Exchange Branch 223	"	1	Anton Lundquist	1 mile northwest of Osage City.
5	Labor Exchange Branch 223	"	4	R. J. Cahill	2 miles northwest of Osage City.
6	Big Five Coal Co. & W. F. Co. ④	"	5	Frank Ward	¾ mile west of Osage City.
7	Superior Coal Co.	"	1	Chas. Swanson	1 mile east of Osage City.
8	Chappell Coal Co. ⑤	Topeka	3, 6, 7	Geo. Chappell	2½ miles east of Burlingame.
9	Rob't Elliott Coal Co.	Burlingame	3	Jas. Bailey	Northeast of Burlingame.
10	Hugh Davis Coal Co.	Osage City, R. R. 5	3	Geo. Elliott	3½ miles southeast of Barclay.
11	Jno. and Irving Lane Coal Co. ⑥	" 6	Boruff mine	John Lane	1½ miles east of Peterton.
12	John D. Jack	Burlingame	Jackville	"	½ mile southwest of Burlingame.
13	Ed. Hotchkiss	"	6	Ed. Hotchkiss	2 miles west of Burlingame.
14	Strunk Coal Co.	"	2	Wm. Strunk	¼ mile south of Burlingame.
15	Central Coal Co. ⑦	"	Central	Ned Hotchkiss	¼ mile east of Burlingame.
16	John Forsa Coal Co.	Osage City	Black Diamond	John Forsa	1 mile west of Osage City.
17	A. W. Granstrom	"	5	Evan Anderson	1 mile west of Osage City.

1. On strike from November, 1908, to October, 1909; idle July, August, 1908; worked one-half of September, October and November, 1908.
2. On strike from November, 1908, to October, 1909; idle one-half of August, September, October and November, 1908.
3. On strike from November, 1908, to October, 1909; idle July, August, September and October, 1908.
4. Three men have mine leased.
5. Report for mines Nos. 3, 6, 7; output small.
6. Lessors did work.
7. Building gin-house and making roadways higher.



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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN OSAGE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1909—CONTINUED.

Office No.	Railroad connections.	Kind of opening.	Kind of power.	Tons of coal produced.			
				Lump.	Nut and slack.	Mine run.	Total output.
1	Santa Fe.	Shaft.	Horse.	2,180.00			2,180.00
2	"	"	"	2,106.00			2,106.00
3	"	"	"				
4	None	"	"				4,088.00
5	Santa Fe.	"	"			9,308.00	9,308.00
6	Mo. Pac.	"	"			1,825.00	1,825.00
7	None	"	"			4,000.00	4,000.00
8	Santa Fe.	"	"			6,356.00	6,356.00
9	"	"	Steam.			3,691.00	3,691.00
10	None	"	Horse.			108.00	108.00
11	"	"	"			300.00	300.00
12	Santa Fe.	"	"			6,525.00	6,525.00
13	"	"	"			6,000.00	6,000.00
14	"	"	"			2,150.00	2,150.00
15	None	"	"			5,000.00	5,000.00
16	Mo. Pac.	"	"			4,430.00	4,430.00
17	"	"	"			6,862.00	6,862.00
	Total.						64,929.00

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN OSAGE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1909—CONCLUDED.

Office No.	Average number of employees.						Mining price.	Under-ground day wage.	Top day wage.	Number of 12½-lb. kegs powder.	Number of days worked.
	Miners.	Boys.	Shot fire.	Under-ground day men.	Total under-ground.	Top men.					
1	51			6	57	4	\$1 55	\$2 56	\$2 02½		44
2	76			6	82	4	1 60	2 56	2 02½		43
3							1 60	2 56	2 02½		
4	15			1	16	2	1 60	2 56	2 50		217
5	35			4	39	2	1 60	2 56	2 50		213
6	8			1	9	1	1 60	2 56	2 50		232
7	18			2	20	1	2 65	2 56	3 00		225
8	72			7	79	5	1 55	2 71	2 14		69
9	34			4	38	3	1 55	2 62	2 37		80
10	3				3		2 00				
11											120
12	22			3	27	1	1 55	2 65	2 25		
13	23	2		4	29	2	1 70	2 81	2 25		
14	6	1		2	9	1	1 60	2 56	2 00		190
15	25	1		4	30	3	1 55	2 75	2 25		272
16	25			2	27	1	1 72½	2 81	2 50		190
17	34			1	35	2	1 60	2 75	2 25		245
	447	4		49	497	30					

* Dynamite, 222 pounds.



COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN OSAGE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1910.

Office No.	NAME OF OPERATOR.	Post-office address.	Number or name of mine.	Mine boss.	Location of mine.
1	Jackson-Walker Coal Co. ①	Osage City	14	Andrew Andreen	2 miles southwest of Scranton.
2	" " " ①	" "	28	John O'Melia	2½ miles northeast of Osage City.
3	" " " ①	" "	29	Geo. Skidmore	3 miles north of Osage City.
4	Labor Exchange, Branch 223	" "	1	Anton Lundquist	1 mile northwest of Osage City.
5	" " " 223	" "	4	R. J. Cahill	2 miles northwest of Osage City.
6	Big Five Coal Co. (W. Fuel Co.)	" "	5	Frank O. Ward	¾ mile west of Osage City.
7	Superior Coal Co.	" "	1	Chas. Swanson	1 mile east of Osage City.
8	John Forss Coal Co.	" "	Black Diamond	John Forss	1 mile west of Osage City.
9	Chappell Coal Co. ①	Topeka	6-7	W. H. Isaac	2½ miles east of Burlingame.
10	Hugh Davis	Osage City		W. Firth	3¼ miles southeast of Barclay.
11	Central Coal Co.	Burlingame	Central	Ned. Hotchkiss	¼ mile east of Burlingame.
12	John D. Jack.	" "	Jackville	John Wallace	½ mile southwest of Burlingame.
13	Strunk Coal Co.	" "	2	Wm. Strunk	¼ mile south of Burlingame.
14	A. W. Granstrom	Osage City	5	Evan Anderson	1 mile west of Osage City.
15	Ed. Hotchkiss	Burlingame	6	Ed. Hotchkiss	2 miles west of Burlingame.
16	Jno. and Irving Lane Coal Co. ①	Osage City, R. R. No. 6,	Boruff	John Lane	1½ miles east of Peterton.
17	Burnett Coal Co.	Burlingame	Connor's mine	Dixon Burnett	East of depot.

1. On strike June, 1909, to October, 1909; also from March, 1910, to June, 1910.
2. Output of mines Nos. 6-7.
3. Very wet mine; did little work.

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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN OSAGE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 1910—CONTINUED.

Office No.	Railroad connections.	Kind of opening.	Kind of power.	Tons of coal produced.			
				Lump.	Nut and slack.	Mine run.	Total output.
1	Santa Fe	Shaft	Horse			4,088	4,088
2	"	"	"			4,583	4,583
3	"	"	"			3,077	3,077
4	None	"	"			3,090	3,090
5	Santa Fe	"	Electric			14,554	14,554
6	Mo. Pac.	"	Horse			2,655	2,655
7	None	"	"			4,500	4,500
8	Mo. Pac.	"	"			4,990	4,990
9	Santa Fe	"	"			6,541	6,541
10	None	"	"			230	230
11	"	"	"			5,800	5,800
12	Santa Fe	"	"			6,388	6,388
13	"	"	"			2,150	2,150
14	Mo. Pac.	"	"			1,893	1,893
15	Santa Fe	"	"			5,901	5,901
16	None	"	"			300	300
17	"	"	"			107	107
Total							60,847

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN OSAGE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 1910—CONCLUDED.

Office No.	Average number of employees.						Mining price.	Under-ground day wage.	Top day wage.	Number of 12½-lb. kegs of powder.	Number of days worked.
	Miners.	Boys.	Shot fires.	Under-ground day men.	Total under-ground.	Top men.					
1	50			5	55	4	\$1 55	\$2 56	\$2 02½		73
2	58			5	64	4	1 60	2 56	2 02½		77
3	46			4	50	4	1 60	2 56	2 02½		72
4	15						1 60	2 56			165
5	50					2	1 60	2 50			233
6	14			4	15	1	1 60	2 02½			240
7	20			1	22	1	2 05	3 00			195
8	30			1	32	1	1 80	2 50			205
9	52			1	57	4	1 55	2 14			90
10	1										
11	27	1		4	32	2	1 55	2 75	25		
12	24			5	29	1	1 55	2 50	25		
13	6	1		2	9	1	1 60	2 50	00		190
14	20			2	22	1	23	1 60	25		187
15	35	2		4	41	2	1 70				
16											120
17	3	1			4	1					
451						29	531				

* Day work done by Mr. Lundquist at 40 cents per ton.



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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN LEAVENWORTH AND ATCHISON COUNTIES.					
Office No.	NAME OF OPERATOR.	Post-office address.	Number or name of mine.	Mine boss.	Location of mine.
Leavenworth County, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1909.					
1	Kansas state mine.....	Lansing	Penitentiary.....	Archie Huycke.....	One-fourth mile east of Santa Fe.....
2	Home-Riverside Coal Company.....	Leavenworth.....	1, 2, 3.....	J. Chalmers..... G. Peet and Jas. Barr.	South of Leavenworth.....
Leavenworth County, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1910.					
1	Kansas state mine.....	Lansing	Penitentiary.....	Archie Huycke.....	One-half mile east of Santa Fe.....
2	Home-Riverside Coal Company.....	Leavenworth.....	1, 2, 3.....	J. Chalmers..... G. Peet and Jas. Barr.	South of Leavenworth.....
Atchison County, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1910.					
1	Thos. Kearney.....	Atchison.....	Riverside.....		Two miles south of Atchison.....

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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY, LEAVENWORTH AND ATCHISON COUNTIES—CONTINUED.

Office No.....	Railroad connections.	Kind of opening..	Kind of power....	Tons of coal produced.			
				Lump.....	Nut and slack.....	Mine run....	Total out-put.....
Leavenworth County, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1909.							
1	{ Santa Fe..... Mo. Pac..... Union Pac.....	Shaft. . .	Steam ..	45,099.12	11,275.00	18,791.00	75,165.12
2	{ Mo. Pac..... Union Pac.....	" ..	" ..			204,054.00	204,054.00
	Total.....						279,219.12

Leavenworth County, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1910.

1	{ Santa Fe..... Mo. Pac..... Union Pac.....	Shaft...	Steam..	35,862.76	8,840.00	14,735.00	58,837.76
2	{ Mo. Pac..... Union Pac.....	" ..	" ..			187,729.00	187,729.00
	Total.....						246,666.76

Atchison County, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1910.

1	None.....	Drift.....		400.00		2,000.00	2,400.00
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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN LEAVENWORTH AND ATCHISON COUNTIES—CONCLUDED.

Office No.....	Average number of employees.						Mining price.....	Under-ground day wage.....	Top day wage.....	Number of 12½-lb. kegs powder....	Number of days worked.....
	Miners.....	Boys.....	Shot firers..	Under-ground day men...	Total under-ground....	Top men....					
Leavenworth County, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1909.											
1	200			54	254	61	315				308
2	416			70	486	69	555	\$0 95	\$2 56	\$2 02½	196
	616			124	740	130	870				
Leavenworth County, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1910.											
1	157			54	211	56	267				
2	397			75	472	73	545	\$0 95	\$2 56	\$2 02½	185
	554			129	683	129	812				
Atchison County, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1910.											
1	6	1					7	\$2 00			160



ACCIDENTS.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.

There were thirty-eight fatal and ninety-one nonfatal accidents occurring in and around the coal mines of the state during the year beginning July 1, 1908, and ending June 30, 1909. Quite a number of nonfatal accidents occurring this year were not of a serious nature. Fatal accidents occurred in the following counties:

Crawford.....	26
Cherokee.....	10
Osage.....	2
Total.....	38

The causes were as follows:

Fall of roof and coal.....	22
Fell off tippie.....	1
Heart failure.....	1
Explosion of gas.....	1
Shot firer, smothered.....	1
Shot firers, explosion.....	6
Miner, explosion of gas.....	1
Miner, explosion of powder.....	2
Driver, by trip of cars.....	1
Driver, kicked by mule.....	1
Coming up on cage, fell down shaft.....	1
Total.....	38

There were forty children left orphans by these deaths.

During the year beginning July 1, 1909, and ending June 30, 1910, there were twenty-five fatal and seventy-six nonfatal accidents. Fatal accidents occurred in the following counties:

Crawford county.....	13
Cherokee county.....	11
Leavenworth county.....	1
Total.....	25

The causes were as follows:

Fall of rock and coal.....	14
Shot firer, smothered.....	1
Shot firers, by explosion.....	3
Miner, by explosion of gas.....	2
Miner, by explosion of powder.....	1
Shot-firer, hit by shot.....	1
Topman, fell down shaft.....	1
Driver, by trip of cars.....	1
Coming up on cage, fell down shaft.....	1
Total.....	25

There were forty-three children left orphans by these deaths.



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JULY 1, 1908, TO JUNE 30, 1909.

1. Fatal accident to John Winters (colored) at Hamilton mine No. 6, July 18, 1908. Was a married man forty-one years old; leaves a wife and three children. Killed by fall of rock seven by five feet and six inches thick.

2. Fatal accident to J. E. Williams, single, at Girard Coal Company mine, July 25, 1908. A pot rock eight feet by ten feet and about two feet thick in the center fell on him while he was at work in his room. The rock broke off at the face of the coal. His back was broken and he died shortly after.

3. Fatal accident to Dan Grant at the Scammon Coal Company mine No. 3, July, 1908. He was mine foreman and was repairing something on the shaker screen. The timber he was standing on was wet, and it appears his foot slipped. He fell fourteen feet to the ground, receiving injuries causing his death shortly after being taken to the hospital.

4. Fatal accident to Winslow Rupert at Cherokee Crescent Coal Company mine No. 1, August 6, 1908. He was a married man and left a widow and two children. A rock six by three and one-half feet, one foot thick, fell on him while he was at work at his working place, breaking his back. He died three days later.

5. Fatal accident to Roy Hair at Sheridan mine No. 5, August 8, 1908. He was thirty years old; married; leaves a widow and one child. He was killed while at work in his place by a rock twelve by four feet by fifteen inches thick falling on him, killing him instantly.

6. Fatal accident to Ed Henderson at Miller & Fitzgibins Coal Company mine No. 5, August 28, 1908. A rock fourteen by seven feet by eight inches thick fell on him while at work in his place, killing him instantly.

7. Fatal accident to Mat. Budlisk at Hamilton Coal Company mine No. 5, September 3, 1908. He was forty-seven years old, married, and leaves a widow and six children. A rock six by six feet and one foot thick fell on him, killing him while at work at his working place.

8. Fatal accident to Frank Ross at Weir Junction Coal Company mine No. 3, September 24, 1908. He was twenty-seven years of age, married, with one child. A rock seven by seven feet, two and one-half inches thick, fell on him while he was at work at his working place, breaking his back, which resulted in his death soon after.

9. Fatal accident to Henry Thompson at McCormick mine No. 1, September 14, 1908. Leaves a widow and four children. He was shift boss and was helping the men to put some timbers up at a parting. He was shoveling some dirt away when a rock about two and one-half feet square and ten inches thick fell on him. At first it was not thought he was hurt bad, as he was able to help himself when he was assisted into a car, but he died one and one-half hours afterward.

10. Fatal accident to Frank Mack, Pittsburg Coal Company (located at Englevale), September 28, 1908. He was burned by an explosion of gas, which resulted in his death. John Cox and John Thompson were also burned by this explosion, but recovered. Cox and Thompson had gone into the entry at dark and were brushing the gas out. They did not use a



safety light, but would go in the dark and would brush for some time; then they would come out and get their naked light and burn out what gas was left. They had been doing this for the past two or three weeks. The entry was in a fault and considerable gas had been generated in it. Cox stated that the morning the explosion occurred he saw a naked light down the entry. He hollered out, "Put that light down or you will light the gas that we have brushed out of these places." Just then the explosion occurred. Frank Mack, the unfortunate man who was killed, was the man who came in the entry with the naked light and lit the gas.

11. Fatal accident to Theodore Wolovniks at the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company mine No. 9, September 29, 1909. He was a single man. While at work at his place a rock twelve by three feet by eleven inches thick fell on him, killing him.

12. Fatal accident to William Goodlet at the Cherokee Crescent Coal Company, October 10, 1908. He was fifty-four years old; a widower; leaves two children. He had gone into his son-in-law's room, and was putting in a charge of powder when he lit the gas that was coming out of the drill hole. The gas then ignited the charge of powder and exploded it while he was holding it in his hand. He died within an hour.

13. Fatal accident to Thomas Redfern at the Central Coal and Coke Company mine No. 15, October 2, 1908. A rock six by two and one-half by five inches fell on him in his working place, killing him instantly. He was a married man and leaves a family.

14. Fatal accident to Henry Foot (shot firer) at mine No. 16, Western Coal and Mining Company, October 5, 1908. He was found in room No. 1. The room was in a normal condition, and the shot had five feet eight inches of fuse on it. We can only suppose that he was overcome with the smoke and after falling down was burned with the fire from the shot.

15. Fatal accident to Samuel S. Skidmore at Big Four Coal Company mine (Osage City) October 6, 1908. While breaking up a fall of coal in his room a fall of soapstone, ten by two feet eight inches thick, fell on him, killing him. He was fifteen years of age.

16. Fatal accident to Joe Ganvble at Hamilton Coal and Mercantile Company mine No. 2, October 20, 1908. He was employed as a blacksmith. The wire on the signal bell would not work and Joe got on the bunters under the cage to fix it. The evidence shows that he hollered down for them to ring the bell. They did so, and the engineer states that he did not know they were fixing the bell and thought it was a signal to hoist. He began to hoist the cage; the other cage, descending, struck Joe and knocked him down the shaft. It was very unfortunate that the engineer had not been told they were working with the bell wire, for if he had this accident would have been avoided.

17. Fatal accident to James Eggberry at McCormick mine No. 1, November 5, 1908. He was single. A rock nineteen by four feet and nine inches thick fell on him, killing him instantly. He was drawing pillows and was stripping a horseback. The rock fell from the outside of the room to the horseback, catching his neck between the rock and the car and killing him instantly.

18. Fatal accident to Jacob Scott (shot firer) at Western Coal and Mining



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Company mine No. 15, November 11, 1908. All the shots in the mine were fired except two rooms on the straight west entry. They lit these shots, then ran to the bottom. They were sitting in a crosscut near the bottom of the mine when the explosion occurred. The mine was damaged considerably, especially on the east side. Scott and Washington, the two shot firers, were about 1100 feet away from the shots when the explosion occurred, knocking them out of the crosscut in the main entry, fatally injuring Scott. They had opened doors on the main entry to shortcut the air, as these last shots they lit were on the first of the air. This is the information they gave themselves. They also said roads were very dry. Two men who worked in this mine stated under oath that they sprinkled this mine twice a week. I examined the rooms where the explosions came from and the shots were put in in good, workmanlike shape. This is a very dry mine, and these shots being on the first of the air with the heated smoke filling the return air courses and the cold air meeting it, along with the natural dryness of the mine, in my opinion, is the cause of this explosion.

19. Fatal accident to Antone Pearce, Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 16, November 13, 1908. He was thirty-five years old, and family in Austria. He was killed instantly by a rock, fourteen by eight feet and eighteen inches thick, falling on him.

20. Fatal accident to George Barton and A. B. Clarke at Western Coal and Mining Company, at mine No. 15, November 30, 1908. George Barton was twenty-five years old, married, leaves a wife. A. B. Clarke, forty years old, married, and leaves a widow and four children. They were shot firers, and were killed in an explosion. (See under head of explosions.)

21. Fatal accident to Sym Ramsey in the Coughlin Coal Company (Osage county), December 5, 1908. He was forty-two years old, and was at work in his place brushing his road work. He had sledged the bottom part of his brushing down and was going to put a wall along his roadway, when the top of the brushing fell, killing him instantly.

22. Fatal accident to Langer Lakar, C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 38, December 12, 1908. Married man, thirty-four years old; leaves a wife and one child. While coming up on the cage he apparently got dizzy, according to the evidence I received, and made a grab to catch the brace on the cage, missing it, his hand striking the side of the shaft; his shoulder then struck the side of the shaft, this turned him head foremost down the shaft, and the cage dragged him up between the side of the shaft and the cage. They stopped the cage within two feet of the top, took hold of the man, and had the cage hoisted. He was dead when they got him loose.

23. Fatal accident to Ed. Cain at C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, January 6, 1909. He was thirty-one years old and leaves one child. A rock ten feet by twelve feet and ten inches thick fell on him. There were props under the rock, but apparently it broke, killing him instantly. It happened while at work in his room.

24. Fatal accident to Wm. Theis at C. P. C. & M. mine No. 9, January 9, 1909. He was a married man, fifty years old, and left a widow and five children. The rock that killed him was six feet by eight feet and eight inches thick. He had just finished loading a car when the rock fell on him. The mine foreman stated that he had warned him to watch that rock, and fifteen minutes after he was told of the accident.



25. Fatal accident to Chas. Perraro at Cherokee Crescent Coal Company, January 28, 1909. A rock twelve by eight feet and one foot thick fell on him while at work, killing him instantly.

26. Fatal accident to Mike Miller, Scammon Fuel Company mine No. 1, February 5, 1909. A rock nine feet by six feet, eighteen inches thick, fell on him while at work at his working place, killing him.

27. Fatal accident to Achille Poramite in the Mayer Coal Company mine No. 1, February 19, 1909. He was found dead in his working place. There was not a mark on him to indicate that death was caused by an accident, and the air was in good condition, but his place was forty feet ahead of the crosscut. He had been in his place all night as he was found the following morning. The doctor said his death was caused by heart failure.

28. Fatal accident to F. E. Jones at Norton Coal Company, at mine No. 3, March 3, 1909. So far as I could learn he was a single man, about sixty-five years old. He was killed by a fall of rock thirteen by thirteen inches by nine inches thick, while at work in his working place.

29. Fatal accident to James Enlow and Sam Pelphery (shot firers) at Cockerel's mine No. 3, March 12, 1909. Both men were single. James Enlow died March 21, 1909, and Sam Pelphery died March 30, 1909. The windy shot that threw fire and burned them came from the seventh room in the first west main entry on the north. There was only one shot in the room. It was not a bad shot, but was drilled about twelve to fifteen inches on the solid. It did not break the coal it was intended to, only blowing out the tamping. The force of the powder that was exploded was expanded in the opening, throwing a great deal of fire throughout that section of the mine, blowing out two stoppings. James Enlow, jr., one of the shot firers, stated: "I went into the straight entry to fire the shots and my budy went into the back entry. I tamped the shot in room 7. There was about three feet eight inches of powder in the cartridge and only three dummies for tamping, but I put a little more tamping in the hole, then lit the shot. There were two or three shots went off then the explosion occurred and I got burned. I ran to the bottom and gave the alarm." Sam Pelphery, the other shot firer, was under the influence of an opiate and I could not get a statement from him.

30. Fatal accident to John Feathean at Clemens & Sons mine No. 4, March 24, 1909. He was twenty-one years old and was killed by a fall of rock in his room while he was busy loading his last car. The rock was twenty-eight by thirteen feet and two and one-half feet thick. The mine foreman states that he had been in this room a few days previous to the accident, and told him to put up some props, and this unfortunate man answered, "What's the use, the shots will blow them out again."

31. Fatal accident to W. J. Baker at Barrett's mine No. 7. He was a single man about fifty-two years old. He got burned by a keg of powder exploding, and died March 31, 1909.

32. Fatal accident to John Brady of the Western Coal and Mining Co. at mine No. 15, April 14, 1909. He was a single man twenty-five years old (shot firer). The shot that caused his death was drilled about six feet deep; it was three feet on the heel and four and one-half feet on the point. There was a slip running through this shot and the coal on the heel outside of the



slip was blown away, leaving about four feet of the shot standing inside of the slip. There was no damage done to the mine, and if this unfortunate young man had reached the safety hole (as I had the company make a safety hole in the mine) before the shot went off, no doubt he would have been safe, as the other shot firers, who were fifteen or twenty feet ahead of him, got into the safety hole before the shot went off and were not hurt at all. I made a thorough investigation of this case and found that the blowing away of the heel of this shot on account of the slip running through it and it going off before the young man reached the safety hole was the cause of his getting killed.

33. Fatal accident to William Dunn at Blue Goose mine, May 3, 1909. He was a single man, 27 years old. While at work in his room a rock 10 x 4 feet 2 feet thick fell on him, killing him instantly.

34. Fatal accident to Alex Stewart, a young man 22 years old; got burned by a keg of powder exploding, which caused his death May 27, 1909.

35. Fatal accident to Geo. Tradeles and Chausetts at Weir Coal Company mine No. 19, May 19, 1909. They were both burned badly by the explosion of gas. Tradeles died May 27, 1909. The fire boss had marked the day of the month and had stated how much gas was at the face to these men. They had been using safety lamps in there for about two weeks; the safety lamp of one of the men who was burned was found where he dropped it. When I examined the place with a Davy light there was considerable gas in the entry, and the closest break through was about 30 feet from the face; there was a good current of air traveling through it. The evidence shows that the fire boss had taken the proper precaution.

36. Fatal accident to Manual Hamilton (colored) at C. C. & C. Company mine No. 38, June 23, 1909. He was a married man forty-three years old; leaves a wife and family. A rock eleven by two feet one foot thick fell on him while at work in his room, killing him.

37. Fatal accident to Richard Poible at the Cherokee Crescent mine No. 1, June 14, 1909. He was killed by a fall of rock in his room. He was a married man with three children.

38. Fatal accident to Pete Cruses at the M. K. & T. Coal Company mine No. 15. He was a young man twenty-two years old employed as driver; kicked by a mule and died the next day.

JULY 1, 1909, TO JUNE 30, 1910.

1. Fatal accident to Elmer Jackson at Swab's mine No. 2, July 27, 1909. He was a single man twenty-five years old; was killed by a rock seven by four feet and six inches thick. Fell on him while he was at work in his place. The driver started around to help him push his car, he sounded the roof, the rock fell, killing him instantly.

2. Fatal accident to Dominick Lucian at Sheridan mine No. 6, August 2, 1909. He was a married man with a family in Austria. He was killed by falling down the shaft while coming up on the cage with five other men. Some coal fell and hit the bonnet of the cage; this seemed to scare him, he dodged, striking his head on the side of the shaft, and he cried "Stop the cage"; he was then jerked over between the cage and the shaft in a space of about six or eight inches. The cage dragged him up the shaft about



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forty-five or fifty feet; he then fell through the small opening between the cage and the side of the shaft, a distance of about 180 feet.

3. Fatal accident to George Roeser at Western Coal Mining Company's mine No. 10, August 12, 1910. Widower, leaving five small children; forty-six years old. A large rock fell on him, breaking his back. He was taken to Mt. Carmel hospital, and died soon after.

4. Fatal accident to Earnest Kahraw at Sheridan mine No. 3, August 29, 1909. He was a married man, leaves a family. He was burned by gas. His place had just been driven through a horseback and was then fifty or sixty feet ahead of the last crosscut. He died shortly after. This place had not been examined by a fire boss.

5. Fatal accident to Clarence Tiger, Mayer Coal Company, August 13, 1909. He got his neck broken by a fall of rock while at work in his room. The rock was nine by six feet, and six inches thick. He leaves a family of four.

6. Fatal accident to Henry Knight at the C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 11, September 12, 1909. He was a married man, forty-nine years old; leaves a widow and three children. He rode the rear end of the motor trip, and when the motor pulled in at the west parting it would go straight ahead after being cut loose from the empty trip, a switch would be thrown by him and the empty would go into what is known as the run-around, making what they call a fine switch. He attempted to jump into the empty trip as it started into the run-around, got his leg caught in the rib of the car, crushing his leg very badly. He was taken to the hospital, and in a short time died.

7. Fatal accident to Antone Gaido at mine 11, M. K. & T. He was a single man 28 years old. A rock seven by five feet and ten inches thick fell on him, killing him, while at work in his room.

8. Fatal accident to Geo. Dohet at mine 15, M. K. & T. He was a single man 22 years old. A rock eight by seven feet and ten inches thick fell on him while at work in his room, killing him.

9. Fatal accident to Martin Kranz at Sheridan mine No. 6, October 12, 1909. He was a shot firer and was killed while firing shots; there were no indications of an explosion, but it would appear that he was hit by a shot or was partly overcome and lost his way. He was dead when found.

10. Fatal accident to Kirt Hornbuckle at Clemness mine No. 2, October 15, 1909. Leaves a widow and two children. He was running a company mining machine when a rock fell on him, breaking his back. He died November 30, 1909.

11. Fatal accident to Theodore Constantine at Fidelity mine No. 8, November 5, 1909. A rock seventeen by eight feet and seventeen inches thick fell on him, killing him while at work in his room. He was 30 years old; leaves a widow and three children.

12. Fatal accident to U. R. Rummer at Burnett's mine No. 1, November 15, 1909. He was a shot firer. He leaves a wife and child. He was burned by a shot in room 2, in the first back entry. The shot which caused his death was drilled seven feet deep and was one foot wide at the heel and six feet wide at the point. The miner who worked in the room said he had three feet of powder in that shot.



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13. Fatal accident to James Marttoni at C. P. C. & M. Co., November, 1909. He was taken sick in the mine and died while being taken out.
14. Fatal accident to Joe Stinac at M. K. & T. mine No. 15, December 7, 1909. He was 21 years old, and leaves two children. A rock eight by seven feet and eighteen inches thick fell on him, killing him, while he was at work in his place.
15. Fatal accident to Giovanni Vigila at C. P. C. & M. Co. No. 5, December 20, 1909. He was killed by a fall of rock.
16. Fatal accident to Louis Doudle (colored) at C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 44, December 6, 1909. He was a single man 42 years old. He was a shot firer and was smothered while firing shots in the straight north entry. When found he was lying on his face, with a slight bruise on his temple. The evidence shows that the shot firers insisted that the fan be stopped entirely while they were firing shots.
17. Fatal accident to Eronio Gurero at the C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 9, January 27, 1910. He was 55 years old; leaves a widow and five children. Killed by a fall of rock twelve by five feet and eighteen inches thick while at work in his room.
18. Fatal accident to Geo. H. Tilly, Hamilton & Grant mine No. 4, January 28, 1910. He was thirty years old; leaves a widow and three children. A rock four by four feet, one foot thick in the center, fell on him while he was at work in his place, killing him instantly.
19. Fatal accident to William Schoonover at the Kansas State Prison mine. He was brushing gas out of his place and swept it down on his light which he had not set far enough away, receiving burns from which he died.
20. Fatal accident to Domineck Corziatto at the M. K. & T. mine No. 8, February 23, 1910. He was twenty-four years old, single. A rock eight by five feet, ten inches thick, fell on him while at work in his room, killing him instantly.
21. Fatal accident to Frank Hirbar at M. K. & T. mine No. 16, March 16, 1910. He was thirty years old; leaves a widow and one child. A rock twelve by sixteen feet, twenty inches thick, fell on him, killing him instantly.
22. Fatal accident to John Oberman and George Sinkford (colored) at the Weir Coal Company mine No. 20, March 17, 1910. They were shot firers, killed in an explosion. (See under head of Explosion.)
23. Fatal accident to Frank Juvon, Swab's mine No. 2, March 22, 1910. He was a single man. His powder exploded while he was putting it in the cartridge. The miners who worked close by said that he always had his lamp on his head while he made up his cartridge of powder. He would pour in a little black powder, then crush dynamite and put it in, then take a cartridge pin and tamp the powder down in the cartridge. Then he would put caps that are used to explode dynamite in the cartridge. The miners who worked close by were afraid and would go away while he was making up his cartridge of powder. No doubt this explosion occurred while he was filling a cartridge in the same manner the miners stated he had filled them before. He was killed instantly.
24. Fatal accident to John Scherder at Sheridan mine No. 8, June 3, 1910. He was thirty-five years old; leaves a wife and four children. He



was employed as a top man, and this mine was just being sunk. While working around the top of the mine in some manner he fell through a small hole that was left open to hoist the tub out of. He died about twenty minutes after he struck the bottom.

25. Fatal accident to Jackson Boyd (colored) at Hamilton & Grant mine No. 3, June 16, 1910. He was forty-six years old; leaves a widow and six children. A rock seven by seven feet and five inches thick fell on him while at work in his room, killing him instantly.

NONFATAL ACCIDENTS.

JULY 1, 1908, TO JUNE 30, 1909.

1. Fred Monday, hip broken by fall on soapstone, Conner's mine, July 1, 1908.
2. Simon Shusnick, hurt by fall of rock, Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, July 3.
3. Anton Elena, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co., July 13.
4. Mr. Carmuchi, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 5, August 14.
5. W. A. Clarke, collar bone broken by fall of coal, M. K. & T. mine No. 11, July 23.
6. Mike Navin, hand hurt by fall of coal, Norton Coal Company mine No. 5, July 18.
7. Henry Knapp, hurt by fall of rock, Norton Coal Company mine No. 5, July 27.
8. Frank Graham, hurt by fall of coal, Columbus Coal Company mine No. 8, August 8.
9. Frank Kermosnic, burned by gas, C. C. Cockerell mine No. 3, August 4.
10. Mel. Sargent, hurt by fall of soapstone, Elliot mine (Fostoria), August 18.
11. Veto Saltino, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 5, August 3.
12. Loyd Moore, driver, fell off trip, run over by car, C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 41, August 3.
13. Jas. Delaney, burned by gas, Hamilton mine No. 7, September 26.
14. Hans Ferdimand, fall of soapstone, Coughlin mine at Peterton, September 14.
15. John Chambers, hurt by fall of soapstone, Standard coal mine, September 17.
16. Chas. Jackson, hurt by fall of soapstone. S. J. Carlston mine, September 24.
17. John Gilbrath, hurt by fall of rock. Cherokee Crescent mine No. 1, September 17.
18. Joe Hovek, hurt by fall of rock, Fleming Coal Company mine 5, October 5.
19. Earl Helman, driver, got hurt between two cars, Fidelity mine No. 1, October 7.



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20. William Devlin, trip rider, run over with car, mine No. 3, Norton Coal Company, October 6.
21. Mr. Messeno, shot firer, burned by explosion of gas, Humble mine, October 2.
22. Miney Watson, cager, got hurt by the cage, Crowe mine No. 14, October 10.
23. Geo. Butler, leg broken by fall of soapstone, Bell mines, Fostoria, October 5.
24. P. Stafforoni, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co., October 13.
25. Thomas Fliss, hurt by fall of rock, Cherokee Crescent mine No. 1, November 10.
26. Morris Cadigan, hurt by fall of rock, Scammon Fuel Coal Company mine 1, November 10.
27. Mat Bisjak, hurt by fall of rock, Fidelity Coal Company mine No. 8, November 8.
28. Sebastions Carovella, legs broken by fall of rock, Scammon Fuel Company mine No. 1, November 25.
29. William Pratt, hurt while loading car, The Home Riverside Coal and Mining Company, November 21.
30. C. Dwyer, burned with gas, Home Riverside Coal Company, November 17.
31. B. Hultsbiger, arm broken by fall of slate, Home Riverside Coal Company, November 11.
32. Sam Stopherd, driver, hurt with trip, Home Riverside Company, November 11.
33. E. Pallazzi, hurt by trip, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 8, November 20.
34. C. Bavisso, leg broken by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 8, November 30.
35. Jeff Henderson, knocked timber out on bottom, fell on him, breaking his ribs, Mayor Coal Company mine No. 1, December 4.
36. Geo. Robinson, hand hurt between cars, M. K. & T. Co. mine No. 16, December 9.
37. Louis Leban, driver, arm broken by trip, M. K. & T. Co. mine No. 15, December 13.
38. William Moran, cager, leg broken by cage, Cherokee Crescent mine No. 1, December 22.
39. John Lebecq, got hurt drilling out a shot when it went off on him, hurting him badly. M. K. & T. Co. mine No. 16, December 31.
40. John Nickolson, hurt while loading a car, H. R. C. Co., December 8.
41. H. Kneemeyer, hurt by fall of slate, H. R. C. Co., December 7.
42. P. Farco, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co., December 31.
43. Olef Vickstein, hand hurt by fall of soapstone, A. W. Granstrom, January 15.



44. Patrick Omally, leg broke by fall of soapstone, Coughlin mine, January 15.
45. P. Klingler, hurt by fall of slate, H. R. C. Co., January 15.
46. Sam Martin, hurt by pit car, H. R. C. Co., January 21.
47. —. Debarra, hurt by fall of stone, H. R. C. Co., January 7.
48. Tom Jones, driver, hurt by trip, H. R. C. Co., January 12.
49. Barney Sweeney, hurt by fall of rock, Miller and Fitzgibbons Coal Company, January 11.
50. Joshua Cline, squeezed between car and rib, Norton Coal Company, January 18.
51. Potter Smiler, leg broken by fall of coal, Norton Coal Company, January 28.
52. Mike Mack, while putting his powder in the drill hole ignited the gas, burning him severely, M. K. & T. mine No. 11, January 30.
53. John St. John, hurt by an empty pit car, J. R. Crowe Coal Company mine No. 18, February 11.
54. Ernest Hamn, hurt by fall of rock, mine No. 6, M. K. & T., February 17.
55. Wm. Voke, hurt by fall of soapstone, Strunk mine, February 22.
56. Paul Gaffaux got hurt putting his powder into the drill hole. He was pushing the cartridge into the hole when it ignited, burning him very severely about the face and especially injuring his eyes. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, February 25.
57. John McGarry, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 9, February 15.
58. Joe Zeigler, leg broken by fall of coal, C. P. C. & M. Co., March 23.
59. John M. Paul got hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co., August 23.
60. Frank Isentroutt, hurt by fall of rock, C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, March 22.
61. Thos. Zimmerman, driver, hurt between trip, C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, March 9.
62. Adolph Huffman, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 9, March 18.
63. John Gardner, hurt by fall of rock, Wear Coal Co. mine No. 19, March 10.
64. Tony Ergen, kicked by a mule, breaking his arm, W. C. M. Co., March 10.
65. David White, hurt by fall of rock, C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 41, March 20.
66. Chas. Clemens, hurt by fall of rock, Barrett mine No. 7, March 20.
67. Geo. Dimetrough, burned badly by twelve and one-half pounds of powder, C. C. & C. Co., mine No. 17, April 20.
68. John Kneebone, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 12, April 20.
69. Homer Kendig, leg broken by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine 38, April 28.



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70. Chas. Paisley, burned by an explosion of gas, Crown mine No. 16, April 12.
71. Wm. Rankin and Henry Cardott, C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 17, April 19. They were burned by an explosion of gas. They were on the entry about 150 feet from the face.
72. Robert Mosler, burned by gas, Nevis Coulter Coal Co., April 3.
73. B. Bergovsek, hurt by fall of rock, the C. P. C. & M. Co., April 8.
74. Nick Demnico, shot firer. Seemed he lost his way, went back in where he had lit a shot, got his face burned badly; resulted in losing one eye. Cherokee Crescent Coal Co., April 12.
75. Joe Latinson, leg broken by pushing a car, Wear Coal Co. mine No. 17, May 18.
76. Martin Vennesnick, burned by gas, Western Coal and Mining Co. mine No. 11, May 18.
77. John Hay, while in the sump cage came down on top of him, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 12, May 24.
78. Victoria Ania, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 9, May 26.
79. Dave Melcohris, leg broken by trip, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 9, May 27.
80. N. Dermotte, hurt by an explosion. He had five dynamite caps in his right hand when they exploded. Sheridan mine No. 5, May 10.
81. L. Mattai, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 5, May 11.
82. Jos. Castanzi, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 8, May 18.
83. Paul Leturgez, hurt by fall of rock, M. K. & T. mine No. 8, May 3.
84. John Wagstaff, got skull fractured by piece of coal falling down the shaft; he was a cager. Cherokee Crescent mine No. 1, May 11.
85. Hiram Elsey, blacksmith helper, got arm broken by fixing shaker, M. K. & T. mine No. 16, May 13.
86. Frank McGarden, hurt by fall of rock, mine C, Mackie Fuel Co., June 8.
87. Ike Atkinson, hurt by fall of rock, Crowe mine No. 15, June 18.
88. Matthew Hallach, leg broken while loading a car. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, June 23.
89. Baptiste Buffo and Tony Mosich. Buffo, arm broken between two cars; Mosich, leg broken by fall of rock. C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 11, June 22.
90. James Ridenour, burned by gas at Humble mine, June 28.

JULY 1, 1909, TO JUNE 30, 1910.

1. Frank Petermencin, burned with gas, Western Coal & Mining Co. mine 16, July 12.
2. William Brady, driver, caught with tail-chain, both legs broken; C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 9, July 26.
3. Joe Schmach, fire boss, while brushing out the gas brushed it through



the adjacent room where the miners' open lights ignited it, burning the fire boss severely; Girard Coal Co. mine No. 8, July 13.

4. Kane Potter, hurt by fall of rock, M. K. & T. mine No. 8, July 18.

5. Lawrence Hardesty, driver, injured by fall of rock, M. K. & T. mine No. 8, July 22.

6. Noah Naught, car trimmer, knocked off flat car, breaking two of his ribs; M. K. & T. mine No. 11, July 23.

7. Felix Tavernaor, got hurt by fall of rock in the entry, M. K. & T. mine No. 6, July 31. He was injured very severely, has not been able to work since.

8. Joe Marley, got hurt by fall of rock, M. K. & T. mine No. 11, August 5.

9. O. B. Howe, hurt by fall of rock, Mackie Fuel Company mine C, August 9.

10. Frank Loverridge, shot firer, burned quite severely while firing shots, Wear Coal Company, August 4.

11. Nelson Haymaker, back broken by fall of rock, W. C. M. Co. mine 15, August 16.

12. Steve Arck, was hurt by fall of rock while riding in on an empty trip, C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, August 19.

13. Joe Zendron, burned by gas, W. C. M. Co. mine No. 16, August 17.

14. Geo. Greer and Joe Kretzer, shot firers, burned by gas explosion, mine No. 16, August 27.

15. Chas. King, hurt by fall of rock, C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 15, August 19.

16. Elmer Adamson, hurt by fall of coal, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 8, August 7.

17. Pete Morano and Frank Regia, when putting their powder in their cartridges it ignited, exploded and burned them. Hamilton Coal and Mercantile Company, August 13.

18. Andrew Goodsell, hurt by fall of soapstone, Labor Exchange mine No. 4, August 4.

19. John Burns, top man, leg broken by car, caused by the mule running away, Pittsburg Midway Coal Company mine No. 7, September 2.

20. Alfred McAlpine, hurt by fall of coal, Nevius Coal Company, September 18.

21. Vivents Stanblas, burned by gas, Western Coal and Mining Company mine No. 16, September 21, 1909.

22. Joe Alich, shot firer, hit by shot, breaking his leg, bruising his head and body, Burnett coal mine No. 1, September 7.

23. Peter Anderson, hurt by fall of rock while riding out on a loaded trip, C. C. & C. Company mine No. 38, September 11.

24. Sam McCann, superintendent of mine; while on the cage it got away in some manner and he fell to the bottom, a distance of 140 feet; Norton mine No. 2, September 8.

25. A. Baima, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co., September 10.



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26. Anglow Lests, back broken by fall of rock, Scammon Fuel Company, September 26.
27. Orl Lane, driver, knocked out a timber, got hurt by rock falling on him, Fidelity mine No. 8, September 30.
28. Joe Milola, burned by gas, Mackie Fuel Coal Company mine No. 1, October 1.
29. Oscar Wantiez, burned by gas, M. K. & T. mine No. 15, October 7.
30. George Holt, burned by gas, Cherokee Crescent mine No. 1, October 12.
31. William Caldwell, three fingers taken off by working at electric pump, W. C. & M. Company mine No. 12, October 8.
32. John Lurxiam, hurt by fall of rock, Fidelity mine No. 8, October 20.
33. Louis Vignia, hurt by fall of rock, Bennett mine, October 28.
34. Edward Crade, shot firer, burned by gas, Western Coal Mine Co. mine No. 16, October 2.
35. John McAllister, hurt by a piece of coal falling down the shaft, Pittsburg Northern Coal Co. mine No. 8, October 6.
36. Frank Gatha, hurt by fall of rock, Crowe mine No. 15, October 22.
37. Chas. Gineen, driver, arm broken by mule kicking him, W. C. & M. Co. mine No. 14, October 25.
38. William Brooks, cager; while in the sump cage was let down on him, breaking his back; October 28.
39. Frank Marzineci, hurt by a fall of rock, Girard Coal Co. mine No. 7, November 1.
40. J. G. Lomax, shot firer; while swabbing out a hole, cartridge of powder was exploded, burning him badly; Hamilton Coal Co., November 6.
41. Harry Shivers, hurt by fall of rock, Nevis mine No. 4, November 11.
42. Dick Foster, badly burned by an explosion of gas, W. C. M. & Co. mine No. 16, November 13.
43. Fred Grimes had his arm taken off; something went wrong with the engine, while he was trying to remedy it his sleeve got caught in the cogs, pulling his arm in; Coöperative Coal Mine at Burlingame, November 4.
44. Joe Gillian, driver, got leg broken running into another trip, Columbus Coal Co. mine No. 8, November 7.
45. Joe Venriette and Emille Vantrunage got burned by gas, M. K. & T. mine No. 18, November 5.
46. Hugh Laster, shot firer, got burned by shot blowing through the wall of coal, Cherokee Crescent Mine Co. mine No. 2, December 8.
47. Chas. Ford, shot firer, burned by the fire from the shot, Nevis mine No. 4, December 4, 1909.
48. Emille Hazon, hurt by fall of rock, Hamilton mine No. 7, December 31.
49. R. Gillan, hurt by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 9, December 17.
50. Joe Albright and Frank Hass, were burned by an explosion of gas, Nevis mine No. 6, January 10.



51. Velentian Stenotz, was badly burned by an explosion of 12½ lbs. of powder, W. C. & M. Co. mine No. 6, January 15.
52. Adolph Packuet, burned by gas at Humble mine, January 11.
53. John Epperson, hurt by a fall of rock, Mayer Coal Co., January 14.
54. August Blachianhaus, burned by gas, H. R. C. & M. Co., January 21.
55. Joe Randay, hurt by fall of slate, H. R. C. & M. Co., January 21.
56. Milton Bakey, hurt by a kick from a mule, January 31, H. R. C. & M. Co.
57. Chase Lenord, collar bone broken by fall of rock, C. P. C. & M. Co., January 5.
58. A. Lindburg, burned by gas, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 9, January 17.
59. James Owen, hurt by fall of rock, C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 44, January 19.
60. William Surythl, hand hurt between two cars, H. R. C. Co., February 14.
61. J. W. Makin, hurt by fall of rock, Mayer Coal Co. mine, February 11.
62. John Bowyer and John Dunafee (Bowyer was master mechanic); they were badly bruised up; C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 31, February 25.
63. Role Rudy, driver, hand hurt between cars, Scammon Fuel Co. mine No. 1, January 31.
64. Fred Lasman, arm broken by a piece of rock falling on him; he was a boss driver; Fidelity mine No. 8, February 3.
65. Victor Vussutti, got burned by gas, Fidelity mine No. 8, February 14.
66. Robert Norton, hurt by fall of rock, W. C. & M. Co. mine No. 12, February 25.
67. Geo. Krertch, got hurt by a fall of rock, W. C. & M. Co. mine No. 12, March 15.
68. Amel Betase, motorman, ran into a loaded car, breaking his leg, W. C. & M. Co. mine No. 12, March 19.
69. Ralph Deacon, John Anderson, James Lavery and Anderson (colored) were burned by an explosion of gas; they were cleaning up a fall. Ralph Deacon went on top of the fall and lit the gas. C. C. & C. Co. mine No. 44, March 14.
70. J. Meehan, driver, kicked by a mule, resulted in losing one eye, C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 5, March 23.
71. Geo. Harris, was hurt by a fall of soapstone while working on the bottom of the mine—got his leg broken and otherwise bruised; Labor Exchange Coal Mine (Scranton), March 4.
72. William Mawson, caught between the rib and the trip of cars, P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 6, March 1.
73. Wm. Halstead, hurt by a fall of rock, C. C. & C. Co. mine 41, March 7.
74. Joe Brunskill, driver, leg broken in two places; mule ran away with the trip; J. H. Bennett mine, March 2.
75. D. Borgoni, shot firer; shot blew out, striking him in the face; C. P. C. & M. Co. mine No. 5, March 22.
76. Chas. Polk, shot firer, was burned while firing shots, Sheridan mine No. 6, June 9, 1910.



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EXPLOSION.

On account of this being an extraordinary explosion, the first bad gas explosion that ever occurred in Kansas, I feel that it is proper to include a report of it here, with the hope that it may be of some assistance to the mine operators and miners to guard against a similar explosion occurring.

On the evening of the 18th of March, 1911, I was notified over the phone that there had been an explosion in mine No. 16 of the M. K. & T. Coal Company, near Mineral, in Cherokee county, Kansas. I hired a special car and immediately repaired to the scene of the accident, accompanied by John Gilday and P. J. Keegan, two deputies, and in going through Scammon about fifty miners got on the car and went with us.

Upon arriving at the mine, shortly after midnight, I was informed that there had been four explosions, and that probably two shot firers (John Burgin and Thomas Cheek) had been killed in the first explosion, as they were still in the mine and had not been found, and that the other shot firer on going into this section of the mine early in the evening to search for these two shot firers had ignited the gas, causing a second explosion. He was not burned, and returned back to the bottom and was hoisted up. About this time a party of six miners went into the mine with naked lights, going to the northeast section. This party was followed by John Jopling, the superintendent, Thomas Watson and Angelo Betease, who descended into the mine with naked lights, going into the northwest section. A short time after these two parties had descended, Francis Ryan, the mine foreman, arrived and entered the mine with the third party; they also carried naked lights and went to the northeast section. Joseph Ryan, a deputy mine inspector, arrived at this time, entered the mine, going in a north direction. Jopling and his party crossed to the fourth east, ignited the gas at a point about 1500 feet from where it was coming through from old mine No. 7; this was the third explosion, and was the one that killed Jopling, Watson and Betease and burned some of the men who were in the first party. Joseph Ryan, the deputy mine inspector, ran forward after this explosion and tried to drag the body of Mr. Jopling out. He was overcome to the extent of having to be assisted out of the mine. About fifteen minutes after this explosion



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Francis Ryan, the mine foreman, and his party came to that section of the mine, which was again filling with gas; as they had open lights they fired the gas again, causing the fourth explosion. They jumped into a sump, thus saving their lives. On account of the small body of gas which they had ignited, as it only had fifteen minutes to accumulate since the other explosion occurred, it was not as terrific as the third had been.

They then proceeded to take the three dead bodies out of the mine. After they were taken out, Joseph Ryan, in company with some miners, again went into the mine with safety lamps to hunt for the bodies of the two shot firers, and they were still in the mine when I arrived there shortly after midnight, and hundreds of people on top were predicting that they were dead.

I at once took charge, stationing John Gilday, deputy, at the mouth of the main shaft and P. J. Keegan, deputy, at the fan with orders to keep the fan running at its fullest capacity and allow no one to go near it with a naked light on account of the gas in the air that it was drawing out of the mine, also that no one be allowed to follow me into the mine unless the fan should break down, as there was danger of it breaking on account of it running at its full capacity. A rude diagram was then drawn for me, showing the directions to go, where I would most likely find the searching parties. John Gilday, deputy, also had a diagram of the direction I was going, and with the understanding that I would send out bulletins every half hour showing where we were working, the condition of the mine, and if he did not receive these bulletins on time he was to lead a party in after me. I continued to send these bulletins out until the large body of gas was swept out of the mine. This was about thirty hours after I had first entered the mine.

There were no safety lamps on top, so I, in company with a miner, John Moran, who said he could direct me to where the searching party was at work, went down the mine without a light and groped our way in the dark into where I found the party of men, some of them nearly exhausted, and some of them with naked lights still burning in the mine. These lights I quickly extinguished, and had the men, who were nearly exhausted, go on top, and sent out an order that no man should be allowed to enter the mine with a naked light. It was a difficult proposition to convince a number of the men that there was any danger from going into this mine with a naked light, as they were confident that no large body of gas had accumulated, and for several days afterward there was considerable talk that they did not believe there was a large



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body of gas in this mine. I demonstrated on eight or nine different occasions there was a large body of gas, by opening a curtain a little and putting the safety lamp through to the back north entry. I did this to convince the men who came down at various times to aid in the search for the bodies how careful they must be, and after seeing the safety lamp fill with a blue blaze they realized the danger and were careful to go no nearer this body of gas than was absolutely necessary. After I had located this large body of gas I knew each time I went into it to demonstrate to the various miners that it was there, by showing them the blue flame in the lamp, that there was a certain amount of danger, for every miner who is familiar with handling safety lamps in carbonated hydrogen gas (CH_4) knows that when he is in a large body of this gas the slightest mistake will ignite the gas and cause an explosion.

I made these demonstrations and took these risks for the purpose of overcoming the belief that seemed to prevail around that mine, that there was no large body of gas in there, and after several days I was successful in convincing them that there was a large body of gas in there. I take this opportunity to state that the name safety lamp should be changed to testing lamp, for I have found so many miners who believed that a safety lamp of whatever make it may be would not explode gas, and therefore they would not have hesitated to have gone into this large body of gas with their safety lamps burning with a bright light. I want to say that a safety lamp will ignite gas if not handled properly, at least the make of safety lamps we were using, and I do not believe it is prudent to go into a large body of gas with any make of a safety lamp with a big bright blaze, after you have determined the gas is in there, for the light is mighty close to a mixture of air and gas that should always be handled very carefully.

They had found the body of John Burgin near the switch of the little north entry when I reached them. He was lying there dead, burned to a crisp. We had his body then taken out.

A curtain was then thrown across the entry on the south side about 20 feet back from the main shaft. This was done to force all the current of the air into this northeast section where the mine was full of gas. I then took a safety lamp and proceeded in a short distance through a curtain, and the entire inside of the safety lamp filled with a blue blaze. I was then holding the safety lamp within six inches of the bottom and the entry was six feet high. This showed that the entire entry was full of explosive gas. This was but a short distance from where I found the naked lamp and about



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900 feet from the face of what was known as the little north entry where I subsequently found the gas was coming through a crevice from mine No. 7 in the back entry off of the fourth east on the north side of the mine, known in the mine as the little north. We proceeded to brattice the crosscuts with canvas where the stoppings had been blown out of them by the force of the explosion. We began working from the fourth east entry in towards the face of this first north entry, where we finally found the cap and lamp of Thomas Cheek, in room six off this main north entry. The back entry which parallels this north entry—they were 20 feet apart and extended a distance of about 900 feet off of the fourth east entry—was full of gas. All the stoppings between these two north entries (about twenty of them) were blown out, and by forcing the entire current of air into the main north allowing it to go through the cross-cuts and blow against the gas in the back entry, thus driving the gas out the return air course, also keeping it from coming into the main north, necessitated working slowly. I would proceed up the main entry with a safety lamp and the men would follow putting a canvas on the crosscuts, carrying the air in closer to the face. We continued in this manner until we had canvas across all the stoppings, except the last two near the face of those entries, which we left open.

We then searched the seventeen rooms in the main entry, excepting room 8, which was partly caved in and tons of rock were still falling at short intervals. This was the entry where Thomas Cheek was supposed to have fired the shots that night; beginning at the entry, then firing the rooms out, going with the air; and he had fired all the rooms and the main entry down to room 5. There were three rooms on the outside where the shots had not been fired in. Burgin, the other shot firer, was supposed to have begun at the face of the back entry and fired the rooms in the back entry. All of these rooms were fired, and apparently Burgin had got out on the main entry when the explosion occurred. I then went through the crosscut near the face to the back entry. The safety lamp, which I carried close to the bottom, showed a small cap while I was in the crosscut, and when I got out on the back entry near the working face, holding my safety lamp close to the bottom, it filled with a blue light. I knew then that the gas was coming from the back north entry, and this demonstrated that the back entry, which was six feet wide six feet high and nine hundred feet long, was full of carborated hydrogen gas, and no doubt the entire air course from this point all the way back to where the air ascended up the air shaft to the fan house, a distance of about one



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mile, had a large percentage of explosive gas in it, hence the importance of keeping the fan running at its full capacity and forcing the entire air current into this north entry with a ventilating pressure sufficient to keep the gas from backing out into the entry we were working in to the crosscuts that were behind us, with only canvas hung across them. On account of so many stoppings being blown out, all the way from the bottom into this little north entry, and the amount of air that was leaking through the canvases that we had hung up to take the place of the stoppings, the best I could do was to force nine thousand cubic feet of air per minute, with a velocity of two hundred and fifty feet per minute, into this section of the mine.

We then located where the gas was coming from—through a crevice in the back entry—and stopped it up temporarily by stuffing baled hay and canvas into it, then building a wall of chunks of coal and shoveling slack coal in behind this wall. This was after we had removed the large body of gas with the ventilating current. We then proceeded to search the entire mine, using safety lamps exclusively.

Mr. H. I. Smith, a mining engineer from the United States Bureau of Mines, Doctor Haworth, State Geologist, and Prof. C. M. Young, of the Kansas University, arrived at the mines about this time. We had the mine pretty well clear of gas, but these men went down the mine with me and filled some bottles with the air in the mine for the purpose of analyzing it. The results of their analyses are as follows:

No. 1. Return air near bottom of upcast shaft:	
CO ₂ (black damp)	0.00
O (oxgen).....	17.70
CH ₄ (fire damp).....	0.34
No. 2. Taken at a pocket in the roof about twenty feet from the north end of "little north" back entry:	
CO ₂ (black damp)	0.40
O (oxygen)	12.60
CH ₄ (fire damp).....	2.13
No. 3. End of "little north" back entry:	
CO ₂ (black damp)	0.00
O (oxygen)	20.20
CH ₄ (fire damp).....	0.00
No. 4. End of "little north" back entry:	
CO ₂ (black damp)	6.00
O (oxygen)	11.60
CO (white damp).....	1.00
CH ₄ (fire damp).....	6.09

C. M. YOUNG, *Chemist.*



Laboratory No. 1437 (duplicate of 1438). Sample return air taken 3 P. M., January 20, 1911, ten feet north of air shaft:

CO ₂	0.10
O ₂	20.66
CH ₄	0.14
N	79.10
	<hr/>
	100.00

Laboratory No. 1438 (duplicate of 1437). Sample taken in return air 3 P. M., January 20, 1911, ten feet north of air shaft:

CO ₂	0.11
O ₂	20.68
CH ₄	0.14
N	79.07
	<hr/>
	100.00

Laboratory No. 1439. At face first north back entry, 900 feet from fourth east. Gas slowly oozing out of stopping at face of first north back entry, when new workings broke through to old workings:

CO ₂	0.93
O ₂	19.22
CH ₄	12.95
N	66.90
	<hr/>
	100.00

Laboratory No. 1456 (duplicate of 1457). Back entry first north off fourth east, thirty feet from face outby of break-through between parallel entries. Three-fourths inch cap in Wolf lamp. Sample taken from cave in roof when air was allowed to mix with gas:

CO ₂	0.40
O ₂	18.92
CH ₄	4.64
N	76.04
	<hr/>
	100.00

Laboratory No. 1457 (duplicate of 1456). Back entry first north off fourth east, thirty feet from face outby of break-through between parallel entries. Three-fourths inch cap in Wolf lamp. Sample taken from cave in roof when air was allowed to mix with the gas:

CO ₂	1.01
O ₂	17.80
CH ₄	7.65
N	73.54
	<hr/>
	100.00

Laboratory No. 1458 (duplicate of 1416). At two-foot break-through between face first north mine No. 16 and mine No. 7. Bottle wet inside and sent by express. Gas exploded in Wolf lamp if moved suddenly. This sample was taken in break-through between mine No. 16, which was working, and mine No. 7, which had been abandoned for some time. The air



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current came from mine No. 7 to mine No. 16. Had odor of alcohol and produced headache. Three-fourths inch cap on Wolf lamp:

CO ₂	0 60
O ₂	19.60
CH ₄	4.00
N.....	75.80
	<hr/> 100.00

Laboratory No. 1460 (duplicate of 1459). This sample was taken at exhaust end of fan in return-air shaft three hours after stopping between mine No. 16 and mine No. 17 was opened up.

CO ₂	0.16
O ₂	20 39
CH ₄	0.04
N.....	79 41
	<hr/> 100.00

Laboratory No. 1416 (duplicate of 1458). At two-foot break-through between face first north mine No. 16 and mine No. 7. Bottle dry and sent by mail. Gas exploded in Wolf lamp if moved suddenly. This sample was taken in break-through between mine No. 16, which was working, and mine No. 7, which had been for some time abandoned. The air current came from mine No. 7 to mine No. 16. Had an odor of alcohol, and produced headache. Three-fourths inch cap on Wolf lamp:

CO ₂	1.41
O ₂	15.81
CH ₄	17 88
N.....	64 90
	<hr/> 100.00

Laboratory No. 1463. At face first north back entry off fourth east, close to face and roof. Exploded in safety lamp. This is a sample of gas coming from an old abandoned mine, No. 7, to mine No. 16. Gas coming from temporary stopping of slack and hay. Fire boss claims white damp, black damp, and fire damp:

CO ₂	0.48
O ₂	18 72
CH ₄	6.26
N.....	74 54
	<hr/> 100.00

GEO. A. BURRELL, *Chemist.*

Mr. Smith, at my request, sent for the oxygen helmet, resuscitating machine and electric lights, from the U. S. rescue station at McAlester, Okla. Later we located Thomas Cheek, the other shot firer, in room 8, under tons of rock, and after working about thirty-six hours clearing away this rock, his body was finally taken out, six days after the explosion occurred. This was a gruesome task, having to break tons of rock, also cut through the solid wall of coal to get to him; the men worked until they were sick and ex-



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hausted. His body was found in the middle of the road about 100 feet from the mouth of the room, and he was lying as though he was coming out of the room when the rock fell on him. After his body was taken out, Mr. Hamilton, who came with the paraphernalia from the rescue station, and Mr. Smith, the mining engineer (these two men had been assisting in the search for about two days), Hugh Harrigan and myself, went into the mine to open the temporary stoppings that had been put in for the purpose of allowing all the gas to escape. I had the men cut through the pillar of coal from the main north to the back entry close to the face where the crevice was blown through to mine 7, so that the air would sweep the gas out after we opened the crevice. The gas was slowly oozing through this temporary stopping and I felt it would be dangerous to leave it. This was the reason that I opened it up, so that all of the gas could drain out.

Mr. Hamilton was stationed about 200 feet back from the face; I opened the small hole in the temporary stopping, Mr. Smith then filled some bottles with the gas coming through from mine No 7; we were nearly overcome; he and I then went back to the fresh air. He was then stationed about seventy-five feet from the face in this entry; Hugh Harrigan was in the other entry on the intake air turn, ready to come to my assistance if I was overcome, as we decided one man was all that should go in to the face of the back entry at a time. The safety lamps showed that the entry was nearly full of gas. The great searchlight that had been brought from McAlester was then set about twenty feet from the face of the back entry. I then went in to the face and tore the stopping out as fast as I could, and pulled the hay out of the hole; the hole was about two feet long, and about fourteen inches wide, running narrower to about eight inches wide; a chunk of coal was setting about two and a half feet beyond the face in mine No. 16, it was setting directly in front of the crevice in mine No. 7, it looked as though the shot had made this crevice and knocked this piece of coal off the rib in the old mine. I reached through the partition or rib between the two mines and by extending my head and shoulders in the crevice I could touch this chunk of coal that was sitting there, so I thought this partition or rib was about three feet thick, but this crevice has been opened larger, and the evidence of the other men is that it is about four feet through. This statement may be the correct one, as I was in very much of a hurry and did not stay to deliberate very long as to the thickness of that wall when I opened this crevice in the wall between mine No. 16 and mine No.