

State inspector of coal mines reports

Section 76, Pages 2251 - 2280

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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ARTICLE 16. *General Provisions.* With reference to an employee quitting or leaving his place of employment. It is understood by the committees that if any employee absents himself from his regular place of work for three days, without notifying the mine foreman or person in charge of his inability to attend his work, he has forfeited all his rights to employment, which is the interpretation we put for the application of this paragraph.



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE ELEVENTH CONVENTION OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION OF MINERS
HELD AT TOPEKA, KAN., FEBRUARY 6, 7, 8 AND 9, 1911, IN COMPLIANCE WITH,
SECTION 4175 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF 1901.

FEBRUARY 6, 1911. MORNING SESSION.

In accordance with the following call, which was sent out to all the miners' unions, the convention assembled in the labor commissioner's office, in the state capitol building, at Topeka, February 6, 1911.

The convention of the State Association of Miners was called to order by President James Sherwood at nine A. M. Secretary Frank Gilday then read the call, which was as follows:

To all Coal-miners' Unions in the State of Kansas, Greeting:

Pursuant to an act passed by the regular session of the legislature of 1901, entitled "An act creating a State Association of Miners, with power to elect a secretary of mining industries, who shall succeed to the duties of the state mine inspector," it is made the duty of the state secretary of mine industries to issue a call to all coal-miners' unions in the state of Kansas to have them elect delegates to the State Association of Miners' convention, to be held in the state capitol on the first Monday in February, 1911.

Therefore, the eleventh convention is hereby called, to convene at the state capitol, Topeka, in the labor commissioner's office, at nine o'clock A. M., Monday, February 6, 1911.

All credentials must be duly certified to by the presiding officer and secretary and the original returned to this office at least five days before the annual meeting of the convention.

Among the most important business of the convention will be election of a president, vice-president and secretary of the State Association of Miners, and the discussion of such matters as will tend to conserve the best interests of the miners of the state.

FRANK GILDAY, *Secretary.*

P. S.—Please carefully read section of the law on credentials and call, retain proper credential, and avoid any mistakes.

The president then appointed the Credentials Committee, as follows: George Murphy, Thomas Cunningham, O. L. Reynolds, Fred Lange, James Skehan, sr.

Motion that we adjourn, to meet in the Knights and Ladies of Security hall at ten A. M. Carried.

Convention convened in the Knights and Ladies of Security hall.

Moved that all the committees be appointed before the Credential Committee reported. Carried.

The following committees were then appointed by President James Sherwood:

Legislative: James Harvey, W. A. Miller, Joe Gursjin, Amos Greenwood.

Constitution: Chas. Harvey, Mat O'Donnell, W. M. Edwards, Andrew Britton, William Lewis.

Ways and Means and Officer's Reports: Dan Harrigan, Robert F. Morris, R. J. Keegan.

Order of Business: L. H. Rowe, Andrew Ryder, Lewis Stickle, Joe Clark, Charles Leonard.

Resolutions: Mail Lyons, John Craddock, Richard O'Brien, Ernest Brown, James Mehan.

Adjourned until 1:30 P. M.

FEBRUARY 6, 1911. AFTERNOON SESSION.

President Sherwood called the convention to order at 1:30 P. M.

The Credentials Committee made a partial report, as follows:

We, your Credentials Committee, find the following unions have turned in to us their membership on their credentials, with the names of the delegates, which gives them votes as follows:

No.	Members.	Delegates.	Votes.
2286	30	Ed Flynn.....	2
2498	26	John Halliday.....	2
1701	78	William Harvey.....	3
2827	135	C. Renison, John Groom.....	4
1922	225	Joe Busse, Arthur Conery, Tolin Vally, Will McDaniels, Sam Buchanan.....	5
1991	40	Ed Swigart.....	2



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No.	Members.	Delegates.	Votes.
1009	250	James McLeod, Oscar Boline.....	6
569	627	Owen Doyle, Joe Ryan, Joe Clark, John Moran, Edward Welsh, Daniel Harrigan, Hugh Harrigan.....	14
2852	126	John Jackson, Leon Besson.....	4
760	200	E. W. Bigham, Edward Barrett, Sam Rousseau.....	5
2714	100	John P. Kane, John Shaffer.....	3
2851	96	David Jenkins.....	2
1014	23	William Leigh.....	1
444	235	A. Wilson, James Harvey, James Delaney, C. Purgatorio.....	6
1288	145	John D. Fulton, August Frere.....	4
2889	126	John Falletti, Julius Laforte.....	4
2620	150	Frank Collins.....	4
2673	76	Charles Ritchey.....	3
210	305	John Craddock, Ralf Deacon, Alex Dixon, Amos Greenwood.....	7
501	180	Doyle McLaughlin, Robert Foster, Thomas Griffith.....	5
1429	180	Fred Lange, William Jinkens, Thomas Morrissey.....	5
544	135	Oscar Little, Robert Morris.....	4
1212	110	A. C. Gallagher, Andy Richardson, R. L. Moss.....	3
1469	40	John Pellegrino.....	2
1820	80	Abe Brown.....	3
533	140	Leon Besson.....	4
1611	180	Joe Laboda, John Thomas.....	5
447	96	Charles Gust.....	3
2662	140	Robert Gardener.....	4
960	127	Richard O'Brien, J. T. Hembry, Chas. Javella, Ben Byrne.....	4
127	326	Charles Scarizzie, James Mehan, P. J. Keegan, Amil Pailito.....	8
2635	176	Ed Vanderbrandt, George Cummings, Mat Shoe, Abraham Fanglio.....	5
1661	78	Mall Lyons.....	3
597	300	John McGraw, Peter Braidwood, Joe Leroy, Ed Fitzgibbins.....	7
1094	200	Thomas Henderson.....	5
135	234	George Murphy, John Fleming, Louie Cipelli.....	6
2858	100	L. H. Rowe.....	3
1674	60	William Gowans.....	2
2425	14	Hugh Harrigan.....	1
445	160	J. L. Gilkay, J. A. Sanders.....	4
2371	177	Pat Darraugh, Joe Cumiskey.....	5
1858	200	John Martin, Wm. T. Lewis.....	5
1835	35	William Hembree.....	2
1790	45	Charles Lenard.....	2
2864	100	Thomas Richardson.....	3
2859	186	Fred Masheda, Wayne Nett.....	5
85	180	Andrew Britton, Lester Casselman.....	5
589	125	A. McNally, Anton Rupor.....	4
1963	65	Loren E. Blair.....	2
219	350	Louis Boulard, Joe Delaney, Chas. Ramestoch, John Gore, Tom Starkey, Ed Delaney, Bert Broadhurst, Tom Cunningham.....	8
273	355	A. E. Grice, W. F. Synus, Thomas Skahan, James Skahan.....	8
679	235	Victor Zalewski, V. Sawazki, Joe Gorskie.....	6
1990	232	Hugh Bevans, Weas Graves, James Pope, A. K. Keller, Walt Baldwin.....	6
33	230	William Troy, Sheldt Reeder, James Curry, A. H. Carl, W. E. Peppin.....	6
2798	80	Charles Harvey.....	3
1074	62	Archie Ure.....	2
2455	175	J. W. Vendel.....	4
2771	100	Leon Deloney.....	3
2624	135	Mat O'Donnel.....	4
1896	50	Andrew Ryder.....	2
2377	60	William McMurdo.....	2
498	160	Ed Manning, Chas. Furgeson.....	4
735	100	John Flemming.....	3
528	40	John McGill.....	2
1697	100	John A. Leveque.....	3
2179	35	Rene Comings.....	2
1580	105	Sam Kynian, George Pierce.....	3
1088	78	John Gilday.....	3
2330	40	Matthew Redpath.....	2
267	200	Wm. Edwards, Morris Dumfrie.....	5
1765	200	W. A. Miller, Ernest Brown.....	5
2524	10	A. C. Cowan.....	1
588	126	F. Rebachie.....	4
2302	35	Warren Pippen.....	2
2289	86	O. L. Reynolds.....	3
40	60	William Johnson.....	2
1294	26	E. F. Kelley.....	2
1884	180	Wm. Greeck.....	5

We did not seat Leon Besson as a delegate to represent local union 533, located at Midway, neither did we give a seat to the delegate who represented local unions 1294 and 1884, as they had no credentials.

This is our partial report.

GEORGE MURPHY,
THOS. CUNNINGHAM,
O. L. REYNOLDS,
FRED LANGE,
JAMES SKEHAN,
Credential Committee.



Moved that Leon Besson be given a seat to represent local union 533.

Amended that the partial report of the Credentials Committee be accepted. Amendment carried.

Moved and seconded that the delegates from local unions 1294 and 1884 be given seats and votes in the convention.

Amended that they be given seats and votes in this convention providing they make affidavit that they were duly and legally elected delegates. Carried.

Moved and seconded that Delegate Besson be given a seat and the right to vote for local union 533.

This brought out considerable debate, and Frank Gilday, the mine inspector, ended a speech against Leon Besson being seated by entering a protest against the miners who work in the mines of Missouri having the right to elect a mine inspector whose duty it is to inspect the mines where only Kansas miners work, and further, that it was against the law, and that Leon Besson ought not to be allowed the privilege of casting four votes for himself, from a local whose members work in the mines of Missouri.

Motion carried and Besson seated.

Moved to adjourn until nine A. M. Carried.

FEBRUARY 7, 1911. MORNING SESSION.

Convention called to order at nine A. M., President Sherwood, in the chair.

Telegram read to convention from Vice President John Uhles stating that he was unable to attend the convention.

Moved and seconded, that the time for accepting resolutions by the Resolutions Committee would expire at noon to-day. Carried.

Secretary Gilday then read his financial report, beginning with last year's report and ending to-day.

Moved and seconded that the report be accepted and referred to the proper committees. Carried.

Moved that rules be suspended and special order at 1:30 P. M. be election of officers. Carried.

The Resolutions Committee reported as follows:

We, your Resolutions Committee, beg to make the following report:

Resolution No. 1, by Alex. Dixon, concerning liability and compensation law. Referred to Committee on Legislature.

Resolution No. 2, by local unions 1212 and 1922. Referred to Legislative Committee.

Resolution No. 4, by Robert Gardner, pertaining to change in constitution. Referred to Constitution Committee.

Resolution No. 3 was amended to read: "That we demand that suitable places be put up at each mine, and that it shall be the duty of the mine inspector to write a true description of the condition of the mine, and place this description where all the miners can see it, in suitable places arranged at the mine to post these notices in.

MAIL LYONS,
JOHN CRADDOCK,
RICHARD O'BRIEN,
ERNEST BROWN,
JAMES MEHAN,
Resolutions Committee.

Convention concurred in the report of the Resolutions Committee.

Committee on order of business being ready reported as follows:

We, your Committee on Order of Business, recommend that all rules of order shall be governed by Robert's Manual of Rules of Order; providing, however, that all nominating speeches be limited to five minutes.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call to order by president.
2. Roll-call of delegates.
3. Presentation of credentials.
4. Appointing of credentials committee.
5. Appointing of various committees.
6. Reports of officers.
7. Election of officers, as follows:
 - First.*—Secretary of State Association of Miners.
 - Second.*—President of State Association of Miners.
 - Third.*—Vice President of State Association of Miners.
 - Fourth.*—Legislative Committee of State Association of Miners.



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8. Reports of various committees.
9. Unfinished business.
10. New business.
11. The good of the association.
12. Miscellaneous business.
13. Adjournment.

L. H. ROWE, *Chairman.*
A. J. RYDER, *Secretary.*
JOE CLARK.
CHAS. LEONARD.

The report of the committee on order of business was adopted.

Moved to adjourn until 1:30 P. M.

Amended that we adjourn until after election of commissioner and assistant commissioner in State Society of Labor.

Motion carried as amended.

FEBRUARY 7, 1911. AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met and adjourned to the Society of Labor meeting.

FEBRUARY 8, 1911. MORNING SESSION.

Meeting called to order at nine A. M., President Sherwood in the chair.

Meeting adjourned to the State Society of Labor.

FEBRUARY 8, 1911. AFTERNOON SESSION.

Meeting called to order at 1:30 P. M., President Sherwood in the chair.

Election of officers first order of business.

Following were nominated for state mine inspector: Frank Gilday, Leon Besson, Alex. Dixon, Pete Braidwood, Anthony Gallagher and Ed. Manning.

Secretary Frank Gilday requested that this convention select some tellers to assist him in counting the vote. As he was a candidate he did not desire to be the one to count the votes.

Moved and seconded that the chair appoint three tellers.

Moved and seconded to table the above motion. Motion to table carried.

Moved and seconded that each candidate for this office select a teller for himself. Carried.

Official tellers were selected by the following candidates: Ed. Fitzgibbons for Edward Manning, John Craddock for Alex. Dixon, Archie Ure for Pete Braidwood, James Pope for Leon Besson, Richard O'Brien for Anthony Gallagher.

Gilday did not select a teller, as he stated five of them would be able to count correctly.

Moved and seconded that no man shall leave this race except at his own request.

Motion to table the above until after the first ballot was taken. Carried.

Secretary Gilday then read the roll-call, the delegates voting as their local unions were called. The ballots resulted as follows:

First ballot: Gilday, 121; Besson, 105; Dixon, 7; Braidwood 20; Manning 11; Gallagher, 9. Total vote, 303.

Moved that the low man shall drop out after the next ballot.

Motion to table.

Motion to table did not carry.

Second ballot: Gilday, 119; Besson, 110; Gallagher, 36; Manning, 11; Braidwood, 20; Dixon, 7. Total vote, 303.

Third ballot: Gilday, 122; Besson, 126; Gallagher, 33; Braidwood, 22; Manning, 0. Total vote, 303.

Ruled by chair that Braidwood drop out of this race. Ruling not accepted.

Fourth ballot: Gilday, 122; Besson, 126; Gallagher, 33; Braidwood, 22. Total vote, 303.

Mr. Gallagher withdrew from the race.

Fifth vote: Gilday, 131; Besson, 172. Total vote, 303.

Besson elected.

Moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn until 9:30 Thursday morning.

Moved and seconded that the meeting to adjourn be laid on the table.

Motion to table did not carry.

Meeting adjourned until 9:30 A. M., Thursday morning, February 9, 1911.



FEBRUARY 9, 1911. MORNING SESSION.

Meeting called to order at 9:30 A. M., President Sherwood in the chair. The election of president taken up. Ralph Deacon and James Harvey were nominated. Deacon receiving the majority of votes was declared elected.

The following were then nominated for vice president: William Tracy, of Mulberry; Dan Harrigan, of Mineral.

Tracy receiving the majority of votes cast was declared elected.

A resolution was then introduced that a legislative committeeman be elected.

A motion was then made that two be elected. Carried.

The following were then placed in nomination for legislative committeemen: Anthony Gallagher, John Craddock, James Skahan, R. L. Moss.

Anthony Gallagher and John Craddock receiving the majority of votes were declared elected.

The Legislative Committee being ready, reported as follows:

We, your committee, submit the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION No. 1.

WHEREAS, There is before the Committee of Labor in both house and senate an employer's liability bill, also a workman's compensation act; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the State Association of Miners, in convention assembled, representing 12,000 employees and their families in the state of Kansas, do urgently request of our senators and representatives to assist and vote for the above-named bills; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be given to our representatives and senators and to the public press for publication.

Adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 2.

In joint session of local unions Nos. 1212 and 1922, U. M. W. of A., at Croweburg, Kan., the following resolutions were adopted and all delegates were instructed to introduce said resolutions to the State Society of Miners at Topeka, Kan., February, 1911:

WHEREAS, The coal miners of Kansas having a State Society of Miners, and said Society having created good mining laws; and

WHEREAS, Organized labor is pressing onward; and

WHEREAS, We have created a law to elect one chief mine inspector; and

WHEREAS, This law gives said chief the power to appoint his deputies, thereby said deputies having no power; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we beg your cooperation of the State Society of Miners to frame a law to have all mine inspectors elected with same power as chief; and be it further

Resolved, That we have no chief, and that we elect one secretary to keep all reports, and that all of their salaries be the same.

Not concurred in by the committee nor the convention.

RESOLUTION No. 3.

WHEREAS, A fundamental principle for which organized labor should insist is reserving to the rank and file the right of recall; therefore, be it

Resolved by the State Association of Miners, That all officers be required to sign the resignation in blank prior to their election.

The committee refused to take action on this resolution and referred it to the floor of the convention. It was withdrawn by the men who presented it.

The Constitution Committee then reported as follows:

To the Officers and Members of the Eleventh Convention of the State Association of Miners:

We, your committee, recommend the adoption of the constitution as it now is.

CHAS. HARVEY,
WILLIAM EDWARDS,
MATT O'DONNELL,
ANDREW BRITTON.

The amended constitution reads as follows:

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. The association shall be known as the Miners' and Mine-workers' Association.

ARTICLE II.

SECTION 1. The state association shall be composed of delegates duly elected and certified to by any association, society or union which is composed of members whose occupation shall be in the mining of coal in the state of Kansas, now organized, or which may hereafter be organized, for a period of three months preceding the meeting of this association.

SEC. 2. No delegate shall represent more than one local in the annual convention, and shall not be entitled to cast more than five votes. And no local shall be entitled to more votes than is reported on the original credentials.



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ARTICLE III.

SECTION 1. The officers of the Association of Miners and Mine-workers shall consist of one president, one vice president, secretary-treasurer. That the next annual meeting shall be subject to the call of the secretary.

ARTICLE IV.

SECTION 1. Should vacancies occur by death, resignation or removal of the president, the vice president shall succeed to the office of president, and shall fill the office until the next annual meeting of the association.

SEC. 2. Should a vacancy occur in the office of secretary, the president of the association shall, immediately upon notice of the same, call a special convention for the purpose of filling that vacancy for the unexpired term.

ARTICLE V.

SECTION 1. There shall be elected at each biennial convention a committee of five members on credentials, five on constitution, five on legislation, and five on resolutions.

ARTICLE VI.

The constitution and by-laws of this association may be amended or repealed at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

ARTICLE VII.

The president and vice president of this association shall receive, providing they are not delegates, five dollars per day and transportation while attending said meeting of this association. Said amount to be paid from a fund assessed for this purpose on all local unions represented in the association. Said money shall be forwarded to the secretary of this association not later than December 31 of each year.

ARTICLE VIII.

All business transacted by the State Association of Miners will be governed by Cushing's Manual.

The Committee on Ways and Means being ready, reported as follows:

We, your Committee on Ways and Means, having examined the books and accounts of the state mine inspector, Frank Gilday, find them correct.

We have examined the itemized accounts and receipts and find there was on hand from the last report \$144.39, and the expenditures are \$144.39, leaving no balance.

February 3, 1909, paid to James Delaney, as vice president for the time that he stayed in the convention, also train fare.....	\$19 14
February 3, 1909, to Charley Harvey, president.....	38 80
February 6, 1909, to rent for hall and chairs.....	17 40
February 6, 1909, to postage, envelopes and printing synopsis of the convention.....	7 00
March 8, 1909, to the committee who investigated Sim Bramlette credentials; paid to John Pellegrino.....	28 15
February 1910, to James Sherwood, attending convention.....	33 90

Total..... \$144 39

We also find that the per capita tax paid in by the various local unions to defray the expenses of this convention amounted to \$131.59. Below are the various amounts given by the various local unions.

Assessment of one and one-half cents on each member to pay expenses of the convention held February 6 to 9, 1911:

Date.	No.	Town.	Amt.	Date.	No.	Town.	Amt.
Jan. 13....	569	Mineral.....	\$9 40	Jan. 25....	85	Stippville.....	\$2 70
14....	1697	West Mineral.....	1 50	25....	760	Scammon.....	3 00
15....	2377	Burlingame.....	90	19....	1212	Croweburg.....	1 65
15....	2827	Fuller.....	2 05	24....	679	Leavenworth.....	2 50
16....	1991	Mulberry.....	60	17....	2359	Frontenac.....	2 79
17....	2191	Pittsburg.....	5 25	19....	589	Yale.....	3 65
17....	210	Weir City.....	4 60	23....	444	Frontenac.....	1 00
17....	1580	Ashly.....	1 60	25....	588	Mulberry.....	1 90
17....	2455	Franklin.....	2 60	24....	1765	Stone City.....	3 00
17....	1820	Roseland.....	1 20	27....	1661	Weir City.....	1 67
24....	2425	Hamilton.....	21	27....	2662	Carona.....	2 10
24....	544	Seranton.....	2 02	.....	1790	Pleasanton.....	70
17....	960	Fuller.....	1 90	18....	1922	Croweburg.....	3 38
26....	2635	Dunkirk.....	2 64	18....	2864	Scammon.....	1 90
18....	1088	Cherokee.....	75	18....	2637	Cherokee.....	63
17....	33	Mulberry.....	3 45	17....	2714	Burnett.....	1 80
22....	1990	Mulberry.....	2 80	18....	1858	Leavenworth.....	3 00
17....	533	Midway.....	2 00	.....	1469	Gross.....	60
23....	1009	Osage City.....	3 75	18....	2858	Girard.....	1 50
25....	1429	Leavenworth.....	2 70	.....	267	Mulberry.....	3 00
20....	135	Frontenac.....	3 51	17....	127	Chicopee.....	4 90
23....	447	Arcadia.....	1 50	.....	735	Yale.....	1 50
19....	1074	Burlingame.....	93	.....	2798	Girard.....	1 20
25....	501	Curranville.....	2 70	31....	2179	Englevale.....	50
18....	1288	West Mineral.....	2 20	Feb. 3....	2851	Gross.....	60



Date.	No.	Town.	Amt.	Date.	No.	Town.	Amt.
Feb.	2852	Radley	\$1 86	Feb. 7....	1674	Weir City.....	\$0 90
.....	2839	Frontenac	1 44	7....	2330	Mulberry.....	60
.....	1990	Mulberry.....	68				
5....	1611	Leavenworth.....	2 40				\$181 59
6....	273	Stippville.....	5 25		2771	Radley.....	1 50
7....	597	Scammon.....	4 50				
				Total.....			\$183 09

DAN HARRIGAN,
ROBERT F. MORRIS,
P. J. KEEGAN,
Committee on Ways and Means.

Report accepted by the convention.

Since my accounts were audited I have paid out the following amounts:

To James Sherwood, on February 9, 1911, as president.....	\$43 20
February 9, 1911, hall rent	40 00
February 10, 1911, stenographer for convention.....	15 00
Postage, sending out synopsis of convention.....	2 00
February 3, 1911, circular letter and postage, asking local unions for per capita.....	4 75
February 15, 1911, Jas. Delaney, money voted to him by the convention.....	17 50
Total.....	\$122 45

I received from the assessment \$133.09, leaving a balance of \$10.64 on hand.

FRANK GILDAY.

The following resolution was then introduced from the floor:

WHEREAS, There is now pending before the legislature of this state a bill providing for the establishing of a School of Mines and Metallurgy; and

WHEREAS, The location of such school is one of the most important questions in connection with the value of such institution, proper regard should be had to that end; and

WHEREAS, The coal mining is now largely in Crawford county, and is still developing to greater extent in and around the vicinity of Mulberry, making it the logical place to locate such school: therefore, be it

Resolved by the State Association of Miners in the eleventh annual convention assembled, That the legislature be urged to locate the School of Mines and Metallurgy at Mulberry, Crawford county, Kansas.

On motion, the resolution was tabled.

A unanimous rising vote of thanks was then given to the retiring state mine inspector, Frank Gilday, for his valuable and efficient service rendered the miners of Kansas during his five years in office.

Mr. Sherwood, the retiring president, was then given a vote of thanks for the fair manner in which he ruled in all matters during this convention.

Speeches were then made by the new president and vice president.

Moved that we adjourn *sine die*. Carried. FRANK GILDAY,
Secretary.



REPORT
OF THE
Inspector of Coal Mines
State of Kansas,
FROM
July 1, 1911, to June 30, 1912.



STATE PRINTING OFFICE,
TOPEKA, 1913.

4-4049



REPORT

OF THE

Inspector of Coal Mines

State of Kansas,

FROM

July 1, 1911, to June 30, 1912.



STATE PRINTING OFFICE,
TOPEKA, 1913.

4-4049



PERSONNEL OF STATE MINING DEPARTMENT.

STATE MINE INSPECTOR.

LEON BESSON Pittsburg.

DEPUTIES.

JAMES POPE Mulberry.

AUGUST DORCHY Scammon.

JAMES DELANEY Pittsburg.

OSCAR BOLENE Osage City.

GRANT PARKER Leavenworth.

CLERK.

RUTH H. BRAMLETTE Columbus.



LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

Hon. W. R. Stubbs, Governor of Kansas:

DEAR SIR—I have the honor, on behalf of the State Association of Miners, to submit herewith the report of the coal industry of the state for the year beginning July 1, 1911, and ending June 30, 1912.

Owing to the fact that the office and records were destroyed by fire on the night of July 7, 1911, immediately after assuming the duties of this office, I am unable to make a complete report for the year beginning July 1, 1910, and ending July 30, 1911.

Respectfully yours,

LEON BESSON,
State Mine Inspector.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

IN presenting this report to the public I desire to express my sincere appreciation to those who assisted me in the execution of my duties. Especial acknowledgments are due those who so ably assisted in rescue work after mine explosions. Acknowledgments are also due Governor W. R. Stubbs in rehabilitating this office from his contingent fund; J. I. Sheppard, attorney, for legal assistance rendered this department; and the deputies for the able and efficient manner in which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them.

LEON BESSON,
State Mine Inspector.

(5)



Report of the State Mine Inspector.

Hon. W. R. Stubbs, Governor of Kansas:

SIR—In compliance with the law relative to mines and mining, I herewith submit to you an introductory report for the year ending June 30, 1912.

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to report that the year ending June 30, 1912, was one of the most prosperous years recorded in the mining industry of the state, at least in point of coal production, exceeding the year ending June 30, 1910, which is the last report available, by 1,213,005 tons.

There were 11,264 men employed in and around the mines of the state, producing 6,348,396 tons. There were 37 fatal accidents, or one fatal accident for every 171,578 tons produced, or one fatal accident for every 304 men employed.

The increase in tonnage in Kansas for the year ending June 30, 1912, can be attributed to two causes, as follows:

First. The negotiating of a wage contract and an amicable agreement between the employer and employees without a strike.

Second. To the decreasing of fuel oil and natural gas.

Crawford county ranks first in point of coal production, producing 3,818,750 tons, with 6298 men employed. There were 25 fatal accidents in this county, or one fatal accident for every 152,750 tons produced, or one fatal accident for every 252 men employed.

Cherokee county ranks second, producing 2,154,372 tons, with 3403 men employed. There were 10 fatal accidents in this county, or one fatal accident for every 215,437 tons produced, or one fatal accident for every 340 men employed.

Leavenworth county ranks third, producing 288,345 tons, with 971 men employed. There was one fatal accident in this county, or one fatal accident for every 288,345 tons produced, or one fatal accident for every 971 men employed.

Osage county ranks fourth, producing 71,421 tons, with 520 men employed. There was one fatal accident in this county, or one fatal accident for every 71,421 tons produced, or one fatal accident for every 520 men employed.

Linn county ranks fifth, producing 15,508 tons, with 72 men employed. This county will some day be one of the large producing counties, as there is a nice vein of coal underlying the whole county.



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LEGISLATION.

Two sections of the mining laws were added during the session of the legislature of 1911. One of the new laws is in regard to bathhouses at coal mines, the other in regard to telephones in the coal mines.

COMMENT.

Bathhouses at the mines are of great service to the miners, owing to the fact that it does not become necessary to travel back and forth in their pit clothes, especially to those who live a considerable distance from the mines. Section 1 of this law provides, among other things, that the bathhouse shall be equipped with individual lockers, but it fails to state the dimensions of the lockers, so there was no uniform size. Some companies contended that so long as they had individual lockers they were complying with the above law, regardless of dimensions. So it became necessary for me to bring action in court against various companies to determine whether they were complying with the law by installing lockers two feet ten inches high, fourteen inches wide and twelve inches deep.

The telephones in the mines have proven to be a great success, especially as life savers, as two shot firers' lives were saved within six months after the installation of the phones in mine No. 7 of the Girard Coal Company, located at Radley. These two shot firers would have suffocated had it not been for the immediate rescue work of the relief party. The shot firers had informed the foreman by phone that they were in the fifth east entry on the north side of the mine immediately before the explosion.

VIOLATIONS.

Immediately after assuming the duties of this office I became aware that section 5008, pertaining to manholes in entries for places of refuge, was being violated in every mine in the state. I issued a circular on December 4, 1911, to all the coal operators of the state, calling their attention to the violation of the above section. I am pleased to state that a great number of the coal operators immediately complied with the section. However, it became necessary for me to close down the mines of some others in order to compel them to comply with this law. It also became necessary for me to bring action in court against the Sheridan Coal Company, mine No. 5, located south of Mulberry, for noncompliance with section 5016, pertaining to timbering of bad roofs in entries. The case was tried October 31, 1911, and the company pleaded guilty and were fined \$5 and costs.

On November 14, 1911, I brought action in court against the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal & Mining Company, the Western Coal & Mining Company and the Wear Coal Company, on account of the inadequate size of buildings and lockers and the unsanitary condition of the same. These cases were tried before a justice of peace, and the defendants were found guilty



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and fined \$50 and costs. These three cases were then appealed to the district court. The case against the Western Coal & Mining Company was tried in district court June 11, 1912, and the defendant found guilty. The defendant appealed to the supreme court.

RESCUE MINE CAR.

A committee of miners selected by the miners' convention on March 13, 1912, and a committee of operators selected by the operators, met on March 14, 1912, for the purpose of sending a joint petition to Dr. J. A. Holmes, director of the Bureau of Mines, for the purpose of having a federal mine rescue car established in Pittsburg, Kan.

The following is the letter and petition:

PITTSBURG, KAN., April 3, 1912.

Dr. J. A. Holmes, Director of the Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR—We inclose copy of minutes of a meeting held in Pittsburg, Kan., by a committee of miners and operators, for purposes set forth in the minutes of the meeting.

We understand that you have practically completed arrangements for supplying the Pittsburg, Kansas, field with a rescue car, and certainly hope that your plans fully materialize, and that a car may be permanently located at this point.

A committee was appointed previous to the meeting referred to herein for the purpose of arranging with the railroads operating in this field, also the electric line running through coal camps and into Pittsburg, for the services of your men. We understand that this committee has practically completed arrangements with all of the roads, whereby in case of accident a switch engine will promptly handle the car, and as all roads entering this field have connection, the car could be very promptly handled.

We are not informed as to your rules regarding the care of the car in so far as providing a suitable house for the car when it is not in use, but you will note that we have arranged to take care of the expense of such a house, if you require it.

Yours truly,

LEON BESSON, *Chairman Joint Committee.*

C. W. WATERMAN, *Secretary Joint Committee.*

Petition.

WHEREAS, A joint committee representing the miners of district No. 14, U. M. W. of A., and the Kansas operators of Pittsburg, Kan., fields, has met for the purpose of securing a mine rescue car from the Bureau of Mines, to be stationed at Pittsburg, Kan., to serve what is known as the Pittsburg, Kansas, field. Now be it

Resolved, That Dr. J. A. Holmes, director of the Bureau of Mines, be requested to station one of the rescue cars, maintained by the government, at Pittsburg Kan., to serve what is known as the Pittsburg, Kansas, coal field. That the Kansas coal operators of the Pittsburg, Kansas, field and the miners employed in said field jointly assume the responsibility and expense, if any, of securing transportation for said car over the various railroads and electric lines in said field, and the expense of providing a suitable house for housing said car at Pittsburg, Kan.

CHAS. SPENCER,

C. W. WATERMAN,

For Operators.

THOS. HENDERSON,

LEON BESSON,

For Miners.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF MINES.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,
WASHINGTON, April 17, 1912.

Mr. Leon Besson, State Mine Inspector, Pittsburg, Kan.:

MY DEAR SIR—Acknowledgment of your letter of April 3, in regard to the location at Pittsburg, Kan., of a mine safety car, has been delayed on account of my absence from Washington and because of important Bureau of Mines matters that have been pending before Congress.

I am informed by the engineer in charge of the mine safety cars that he has directed that mine safety car No. 4 proceed to Pittsburg, Kan., to be held in reserve in case of mine accidents in that vicinity. Mr. C. S. Stevenson, mining engineer, is now en route to Pittsburg in charge of this car.

I regret to inform you, however, that the limited appropriations made by Congress for the present fiscal year, 1912, have compelled the withdrawal of all the mine safety cars in the field.

I have sent a copy of your letter to the engineer in charge of the mine safety cars of the Bureau, calling his attention to the very kind offer made by the joint committee of the operators and miners in assuming the responsibility of securing transportation over such railroads as have declined to furnish free transportation for the mine safety cars.

Please accept my grateful thanks for the offer made to house the car while located at Pittsburg.

Yours very truly,
J. A. HOLMES, *Director.*

Immediately after the arrival of mine safety car No. 4 in Pittsburg, Kan., I received the following communication:

Mr. Leon Besson, State Mine Inspector, Pittsburg, Kan.:

MY DEAR MR. BESSON—Mr. Stevenson, assistant mining engineer of the Bureau of Mines, who is now in Pittsburg, Kan., with one of our mine rescue cars, has written me of the active coöperation which he has met with from yourself and associates at Pittsburg, all of which are most heartily appreciated.

With reference to your suggestion that the local authorities would, if need be, gladly provide a house or shed for the protection of the car, I beg to report that the Bureau of Mines has no funds at its disposal at the present time out of which such housing or shed could be provided, and I would, therefore, appreciate anything that may be done in that direction by the local authorities.

I am anxious to have everything possible done by the Bureau towards active coöperation with state authorities in this work in behalf of safeguarding the lives of the miners; and I appreciate especially the cordial coöperative spirit shown by yourself and your associates in the case under consideration. With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
J. A. HOLMES, *Director.*

STEAM SHOVELS.

There are nineteen steam shovels in operation in Cherokee and Crawford counties, seventeen of these having been installed during the year of 1912. These shovels are used for the purpose of removing the surface off the coal, the coal being at a depth of from 9 to 22 feet. These mines are termed strip pits, and are becoming quite common in these two counties. The largest type of steam shovel is being used.

The employees working in the strip pits were admitted into



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the United Mine Workers of America and a wage agreement entered into between the employers and employees.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Owing to the increased duties, due to the bathhouse and telephone laws passed at the last legislature, I would advise that an additional deputy be added to this department, whose duties it would be to assist in the field work.

Another matter demanding special consideration at the hands of the legislative body in regard to this department is the creation of a rescue station, to be located in or near the mining center of the state, to be equipped with oxygen helmets and pulmotors, to be used for rescue work immediately after an explosion or mine fire.

CONCLUSION.

Again I desire to thank those who manifested interest in the affairs of this department for the many considerations I have received at their hands. I again desire to thank the deputy mine inspectors for their work done in the field, and the performance of their duties, on the whole, in a satisfactory manner.

LEON BESSON,
State Mine Inspector.



COAL PRODUCTION FROM 1869 TO 1912, IN SHORT TONS, AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, AND NUMBER OF FATAL ACCIDENTS.

Year.	Quantity.	Average number of men employed.	Number of fatal accidents.	Name of mine inspector.
1869 ¹	36,891	.....	.....	.....
1870 ¹	32,938	.....	.....	.....
1871 ¹	41,000	.....	.....	.....
1872 ¹	44,800	.....	.....	.....
1873 ¹	56,000	.....	.....	.....
1874 ¹	85,000	.....	.....	.....
1875 ¹	150,000	.....	.....	.....
1876 ¹	225,000	.....	.....	.....
1877 ¹	300,000	.....	.....	.....
1878 ¹	375,000	.....	.....	.....
1879 ¹	460,000	.....	.....	.....
1880 ¹	771,442	.....	.....	.....
1881 ¹	840,000	.....	.....	.....
1882 ¹	750,000	.....	.....	.....
1883 ¹	900,000	.....	.....	.....
1884	1,100,000	.....	3	E. A. Scammon.
1885 ²	1,440,057	4,175	9	J. R. Braidwood.
1886 ²	1,350,000	.....	.....	.....
1887 ²	1,570,079	.....	7	G. W. Findlay.
1888 ²	1,700,000	.....	.....	J. T. Stewart.
1889 ²	2,112,166	5,956	12	J. T. Stewart.
1890 ²	2,516,054	4,523	8	.....
1891 ²	2,753,722	6,201	13	.....
1892 ²	3,007,276	6,559	.....	.....
1893	2,881,931	9,891	15	A. C. Gallagher.
1894	3,611,214	10,088	26	A. C. Gallagher.
1895	3,190,843	9,021	10	Bennett Brown.
1896	3,191,748	8,807	12	Bennett Brown.
1897	3,291,806	8,699	6	Geo. T. McGrath.
1898	3,860,405 ½	8,122	17	Geo. T. McGrath.
1899	4,096,895	10,198	16	Edward Keegan.
1900	4,269,716	10,673	20	Edward Keegan.
1901	4,896,121	9,506	10	Edward Keegan.
1902	5,230,433	9,315	30	D. R. Casselman.
1903	5,540,647	9,972	36	D. R. Casselman.
1904 ⁴	2,732,499	10,347	16	James A. Orr.
1905	6,374,671	12,109	36	James A. Orr.
1906	5,754,616	10,175	30	Frank Gilday.
1907	6,591,013	11,957	52	Frank Gilday.
1908	5,588,016	11,334	31	Frank Gilday.
1909	5,727,653	10,542	38	Frank Gilday.
1910	5,135,391	10,619	25	Frank Gilday.
1911 ⁵	6,254,228	10,918	.....	Leon Besson.
1912	6,350,396	11,264	37	Leon Besson.
Total.....	117,097,667 ½			

1. Production of coal from 1869 to 1884 and for 1911, taken from the United States Geological Survey.

2. One report made for two years.

3. No report made; statistics for that year taken from the United States Geological Survey.

4. One-half year's report. Reports changed from the calendar year ending December 31 to fiscal year ending June 30.

5. Explosion at mine No. 2 at Frontenac. No record was made of loss of life, but it is known that forty-five lives were lost.

6. Records destroyed.

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MINE INSPECTIONS.

CRAWFORD COUNTY.

Crawford county is the largest coal-producing county in the state, and will continue to be the largest for some time, as there were a number of new mines sunk in the last year.

The coal lies at a depth of from 30 to 250 feet, and the thickness of the coal vein varies from 30 to 42 inches. The mines are worked on the room-and-pillar system, the coal being shot off the solid, requiring a great amount of powder, this being primarily the cause of the mine explosions. The mines in the north part of this county are extremely dry, causing a vast amount of fine coal dust to accumulate in the old workings and on the roadways. When fine coal dust is allowed to accumulate in vast quantities it becomes one of the dangerous factors to be met with in the mines.

Mine No. 5 of the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, located at Chicopee. This mine at one time was one of the largest producers in the county, but will be abandoned in a few months.

Mine No. 6 of the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, located at Frontenac. This mine also was one of the large producers at one time, it being worked out during the third quarter of this year.

Mine No. 9 of the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, located at Frontenac. There were 263 men employed, producing 199,344 tons of coal in 258 days. On my first inspection of this mine I found that the law pertaining to manholes in traveling ways for places of refuge was being violated. Having ordered the mine officials to comply with the above law, I am pleased to report that they have complied with the same. I also found that there was considerable amount of trouble in this mine on account of an insufficient amount of air. I ordered all of the air courses to be enlarged, which made it necessary for the mine to remain idle for a few days while the repairs were being made.

Mine No. 11 of the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, located four miles north of Frontenac. There were 296 men employed, producing 204,805 tons of coal in 256 days, being the largest producer in the state. I found that the law pertaining to manholes in traveling ways for places of refuge was being violated, so I ordered the company to comply with the above law, and I am pleased to say that they have complied with my orders. Two motors are used on the west side of the mine to haul the coal to the bottom.

Mine No. 12 of the Cherokee-Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, located two miles north of Frontenac, having broken into a number of other mines, the company was unable to keep the water down, which was rushing into this mine from the old mines. They suspended operations during the third quarter of this year, losing their rails, cars and other materials.

Mine No. 10 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, located east of Cherokee. There were 75 men employed, producing 53,012 tons of coal in 240 days. This mine was worked partly on the low back-entry system and single-entry system, and the air courses were nearly choked tight from falls of roof and squeezes. I ordered the air courses opened up and for them to comply with the double-entry system. I am pleased to say that they have complied with my orders. The law pertaining to manholes on traveling ways for places of refuge was not being complied with, so I ordered manholes to be placed in accordance with the mining laws, and I am pleased to report that they have complied with the same.



Mine No. 11 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, located west of Yale. The company suspended operation of this mine during the third quarter of this year.

Mine No. 13 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, located west of Yale. There were 124 men employed, producing 79,360 tons of coal in 214 days. The law pertaining to manholes in the traveling ways for places of refuge was being violated. I ordered the company to comply with the law, and upon my return to this mine I found that the orders had not been complied with and no inclination of doing so. I ordered the mine closed down pending repairs. I also ordered the main entries of this mine to be timbered, as there was considerable bad top in these entries.

Mine No. 14 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, located one mile northwest of Fleming. There were 184 men employed, producing 142,014 tons of coal in 228 days. There were no manholes in this mine, so I ordered same to be placed in accordance with the mining law, and I am pleased to say that they have complied with the above orders.

Mine No. 15 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, located east of Franklin. There were 251 men employed, producing 161,907 tons of coal in 220 days. This mine has killed 11 shot firers since it began operation, this being a very dry mine and generating considerable carbureted hydrogen (CH_4), rendering it dangerous to the shot firers. It became necessary for me to order this mine closed down to compel them to remove the dust. I had ordered the dust removed on two or three different occasions prior to the closing down of this mine. The company had ignored my orders, and I was determined to have them comply with the mining laws; therefore I issued the above order closing down their mine, and they complied with the same. Later on I ordered manholes in the traveling ways and the retimbering of the entries, and it became necessary again for me to have this mine suspend operation for a time while they complied with my orders.

Mine No. 16 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, located at Franklin. There were 151 men employed, producing 66,216 tons of coal in 145 days. This mine was destroyed by fire in the month of June, 1911, and did not resume operation until the second quarter of this year. The law pertaining to manholes on traveling ways for places of refuge was not being complied with, so I ordered manholes placed in accordance with the mining laws, and I will say that they have complied with the same.

Mine No. 17 of the Central Coal and Coke Company, located at Nelson. There were 244 men employed, producing 131,549 tons of coal in 226 days. Immediately after assuming the duties of this office I received many complaints in regard to poor ventilation. I ordered another overcast put in on the north side of this mine, in order to give the men another section of air. I also ordered manholes on traveling ways for places of refuge, to be installed in accordance with the mining laws, and I will say they have complied with the same.

Mine No. 38 of the Central Coal and Coke Company, located at Curranville. There were 230 men employed, producing 130,336 tons of coal in 215 days. There was considerable loose rock hanging over the entries. I ordered the rock pulled down and these entries timbered. The law pertaining to manholes on traveling ways for places of refuge was not being complied with. I will say that they have complied with the above orders. I have had considerable trouble at this mine with the scales. It became necessary for me to order the mine closed down in order to get the scales repaired.

Mine No. 41 of the Central Coal and Coke Company, located northwest of Weir. There were 182 men employed, producing 108,471 tons of coal in 201 days. There were a few entries being worked on the single-entry system in this mine, and a few on the low back-entry system, upon my first visit to this mine. I ordered this to be discontinued, and I will say that they have complied with the orders and are driving two parallel brushed entries.

Mine No. 6 of the Hamilton Coal and Mercantile Company, located

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north of Cherokee. There were 103 men employed, producing 53,306 tons of coal in 245 days. This is a very faulty mine and very difficult to operate owing to the numerous faults in the coal. Upon my first inspection I found the air course to be in a deplorable condition, and the men suffering for the want of air. I ordered these air courses cleaned out and made larger. I also ordered manholes to be placed on the traveling ways for places of refuge, and they complied with my orders.

Mine No. 7 of the Hamilton Coal and Mercantile Company, located at Radley. There were 150 men employed, producing 77,823 tons of coal in 215 days. Three shot firers were killed by explosions in this mine during this year. I had holes placed in the solid coal, with two doors at the mouth of these holes for places of refuge for the shot firers. These have proven to be of valuable service. I also ordered manholes to be placed on the traveling ways for places of refuge, and they have complied with the same.

Mine No. 8 of the Hamilton Coal and Mercantile Company, located east of Arma. There were 75 men employed, producing 24,219 tons of coal in 131 days. This mine was sunk during this year, being one of the deepest mines in Crawford county.

Mine No. 5 of the Chapman Coal Company, located at Hazen Camp. There were 180 men employed, producing 115,344 tons of coal in 227 days. There were no manholes on the traveling ways for places of refuge, so I ordered manholes put in, in accordance with the mining laws, and also ordered the entries timbered.

Mine No. 17 of the Wear Coal Company, located at Dunkirk. There were 172 men employed, producing 104,753 tons of coal in 199 days. I had received many complaints in regard to the air at this mine. I ordered the air course to be cleaned out, and manholes put in on the traveling ways for places of refuge. This company was inclined to disregard my orders to comply with the mining laws, so it became necessary to have this mine closed down before I could get them to comply with the state mining laws.

Mine No. 19 of the Wear Coal Company, located at Edison. There were 178 men employed, producing 112,425 tons of coal in 201 days. This mine was in a deplorable condition, as the men were compelled to return home for the want of air. I ordered the air courses enlarged and manholes put in the traveling ways for places of refuge. It became necessary for me to close the mine down in order to get them to comply with the state mining laws. I closed this mine down on two other occasions owing to an insufficient amount of air. I have considerable trouble in getting this company to comply with the mining laws.

Mine No. 20 of the Wear Coal Company, located three miles northwest of Pittsburg. There were 63 men employed, producing 34,494 tons of coal in 189 days. I had considerable trouble in getting this company to comply with the mining laws in this mine. The air courses were allowed to become choked, retarding the velocity of air. I ordered this to be repaired immediately. One entry was being worked on the single-entry system, and I ordered this to be discontinued. It became necessary for me to have the mine closed down in order to get the company to comply with the law.

Mine No. 2 of the Sheridan Coal Company, located at Fuller. There were 104 men employed, producing 17,931 tons of coal in 70 days. This mine was worked out during the second quarter of this year.

Mine No. 3 of the Sheridan Coal Company, located at Breezy Hill. There were 154 men employed, producing 82,459 tons of coal in 207 days. I ordered manholes to be installed in this mine in compliance with the mining law, and I will say they have complied with the same. This mine produces considerable carbureted hydrogen (CH_4), making it dangerous to the miners when they go into their working places in the morning, as they have no way of detecting it. I ordered a fire boss or a mine examiner put in this mine, and I am pleased to report that they have complied with my request.

Mine No. 5 of the Sheridan Coal Company, located south of Mulberry. There were 150 men employed, producing 91,869 tons of coal in 248



days. There was considerable bad top in the entries of this mine. I had ordered the loose rocks pulled down and the entries timbered. The mine foreman disregarding my order, it became necessary for me to bring action in court to compel the company to comply with it. The company plead guilty to the charges of not complying with the mining laws and were assessed a fine and costs, which the company paid. I also ordered manholes to be placed on the traveling ways of this mine, which was complied with.

Mine No. 8 of the Sheridan Coal Company, located west of Fuller. There were 125 men employed, producing 93,183 tons of coal in 242 days. This is a new mine, and will be one of the Sheridan's largest producers. I ordered manholes in the traveling ways, and also two overcasts, which was complied with.

Mine No. 10 of the Sheridan Coal Company, located one mile west of Mulberry. There were 73 men employed, producing 42,985 tons of coal in 259 days. This is a new mine, and is destined to be one of the large producers.

Mine No. 11 of the Sheridan Coal Company, located northwest of Gross. There were 49 men employed, producing 17,493 tons of coal in 180 days. This also is a new mine.

Mine No. 1 of the Clemens & Son Coal Company, located north of Pittsburg. There were 62 men employed, producing 22,405 tons of coal in 141 days. This mine is nearly worked out.

Mine No. 3 of the Clemens & Son Coal Company, located southwest of Pittsburg. There were 116 men employed, producing 80,188 tons of coal in 202 days. This is an extremely wet mine. I ordered another escape shaft west of the creek, as I considered it dangerous for the men to be working beyond the creek.

Mine No. 4 of the Clemens & Son Coal Company, located west of Mulberry. There were 86 men employed, producing 44,131 tons of coal in 148 days. We ordered manholes put in the traveling ways for places of refuge, and will say that they have complied with the same.

Mine No. 7 of the Clemens & Son Coal Company, located north of Pittsburg. This was a small mine, and is nearly worked out.

Mine No. 1 of the Nevius Coal Company, located west of Pittsburg. There were 108 men employed, producing 63,467 tons of coal in 220 days. This is a very wet mine, and as they are undermining the bottoms of Cow creek, I ordered another escape shaft, as I considered it very dangerous.

Mine No. 5 of the Bannister-Nevius Coal Company, located west of Pittsburg. This mine was worked out during this year.

Mine No. 6 of the Nevius-Coulter Coal Company, located south of Radley. There were 99 men employed, producing 52,703 tons of coal in 231 days. This is a very faulty mine, and owing to the faults there has never been any overcast in this mine. I ordered one put in and manholes along the traveling ways, and I am pleased to say that they are complying with my orders.

Mine No. 1 of the J. R. Burnett Coal Company, located west of McCormick. There were 70 men employed, producing 50,008 tons of coal in 222 days. Upon my first inspection of this mine I found the traveling way to the escape shaft had squeezed almost together, so I ordered it opened up immediately, and I also ordered manholes put in the traveling ways for places of refuge. I will say that they have complied with my orders. Later on I was called to this mine to inspect the scales. It was found that some one had placed chewing gum under one of the 1000-pound weights to defraud the miners of their just weights. The company reimbursed the miners for their loss, and they discharged their weighman.

Mine No. 7 of the Girard Coal Company, located at Radley. There were 70 men employed, producing 35,608 tons of coal in 182 days. Four shot firers were killed in this mine by explosions during this year. I

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had the company put in what we term dogholes for places of refuge for the shot firers. I am pleased to say that it was the means of saving two lives, as the shot firers had taken refuge in the doghole just prior to an explosion. I ordered manholes put in the traveling ways for places of refuge, in accordance with the mining laws.

Mine No. 8 of the Pittsburg-Northern Coal Company, located east of Franklin. There were 152 men employed, producing 102,653 tons of coal in 201 days. Upon my first inspection I ordered the air courses enlarged, as the men were suffering for want of air. I also ordered manholes in the traveling ways. The mine is in very good shape at present.

Mine No. 9 of the Girard Fuel Company, located north of Arma. There were 49 men employed, producing 24,305 tons of coal in 227 days. This is a new mine. I ordered dogholes in this mine for the protection of the shot firers, and it was the means of saving two lives, as the shot firers were in the doghole when an explosion occurred.

Mine No. 14 of the J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Company, located at Croweburg. There were 139 men employed, producing 110,323 tons of coal in 187 days. Upon my first inspection of this mine I ordered a number of improvements which would tend to better the condition of the air. I also ordered manholes along the traveling ways for places of refuge, and they have complied with same.

Mine No. 15 of the J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Company, located at Croweburg. This mine did not operate during this year.

Mine No. 16 of the J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Company, located at Croweburg. There were 192 men employed, producing 124,664 tons of coal in 178 days. I ordered the company to comply with the law pertaining to manholes on traveling ways, which they did.

Mine No. 1 of the McCormick Coal Company, located at McCormick camp. There were 83 men employed, producing 57,507 tons of coal in 224 days. This mine is now worked out.

Mine No. 6 of the Dickinson Coal Company, located at Breezy Hill. There were 241 men employed, producing 148,046 tons of coal in 240 days. I ordered manholes put in along the traveling ways for places of refuge and the main entries timbered. I also ordered them to put in more air at the working face, which they have done.

Mine No. 9 of the Howe Coal Company, located north of Mulberry. There were 96 men employed, producing 67,903 tons of coal in 245 days. This is a new mine and will be one of the largest producers.

Mine No. 4 of the W. B. McCormick Coal Company, located northwest of Mulberry. There were 41 men employed, producing 26,282 tons of coal in 245 days. I ordered an escape shaft to be sunk immediately in accordance with the state mining laws. The company showing no inclination to comply with this law, it became necessary for me to have this mine closed down until it was complied with.

Mine No. 6 of the Abbott Coal Company, located north of Gross. There were 65 men employed, producing 38,805 tons of coal in 167 days. This mine was in bad shape. We ordered a number of improvements, which have been complied with.

Mine No. 1 of the LaBelle Coal Company, located west of Frontenac. There were 35 men employed, producing 18,546 tons of coal in 158 days. This mine is worked out.

Mine No. 16 of the Roy-Millner Coal Company, located south of Chicopee. There were 44 men employed, producing 12,950 tons of coal in 116 days. This mine was troubled considerably with black damp. I ordered the old works cut off by stoppings, or bratticed, which helped considerably.

Mine No. 1 of the L. J. Stephenson Coal Company, located north of Pittsburg. There were 19 men employed, producing 12,520 tons of coal



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in 237 days. This is a small mine, selling most of the coal to local trade.

Mine No. 3 of the Mayer Coal Company, located south of Radley. There were 116 men employed, producing 100,429 tons of coal in 236 days. This mine is equipped with water line running along the entries, used to sprinkle the entries and room necks. I had manholes put in along the traveling ways.

Mine No. 7 of the Spencer-Newland Coal Company, located south of Mulberry. There were 172 men employed, producing 92,825 tons of coal in 199 days. The air in this mine was not sufficient to supply the men, so we ordered a number of improvements to be made, which helped considerably. I also ordered manholes to be put in the traveling ways, which was complied with.

Mine No. 2 of the B. S. Chambers Coal Company, located north of Mulberry. There were 45 men employed, producing 21,838 tons of coal in 207 days. This is an old mine. I have ordered an escape shaft to be sunk at this mine.

Mine No. 1 of the A. M. Davis Coal Company, located south of Gross. There were 15 men employed, producing 1261 tons of coal in 51 days. This is a very small mine.

CHEROKEE COUNTY.

Cherokee county ranks second in the point of coal production, coal being mined on the room-and-pillar system. There were a few new mines sunk during the year. The mines are all ventilated by fans in this county. There were a number of mines that would stop their fans during the night, causing poisonous gases to accumulate, making it utterly impossible at times for men to work. The coal lies at a depth of from 25 to 150 feet, and the thickness of the coal vein ranges from 32 to 48 inches. The mines in the western part of this county are known to generate considerable carbureted hydrogen (CH_4).

Mine No. 8 of the M. K. & T. coal department, located south of Mineral. There were 158 men employed, producing 114,750 tons of coal in 274 days. This mine was in a deplorable condition, miners being compelled to return home on numerous occasions owing to an insufficient amount of air. I ordered this mine closed down while they were enlarging the air courses and putting in manholes along the traveling ways in accordance with the mining laws, necessitating the suspension of operation for some time.

Mine No. 11 of the M. K. & T. coal department, located at Mineral. This mine produced 8426 tons of coal, it being worked out during the second quarter of this year.

Mine No. 15 of the M. K. & T. coal department, located north of Mineral. There were 128 men employed, producing 99,131 tons of coal in 263 days. Upon my inspection of this mine I ordered the entries timbered and manholes put in along traveling ways for places of refuge, and I also ordered a number of rooms stopped that were turned under low back entry, as they were using curtains for air gates. I am pleased to say that they have complied with the above orders.

Mine No. 16 of the M. K. & T. coal department, located southeast of Mineral. There were 191 men employed, producing 157,391 tons of coal in 270 days. This mine will be worked out in a few months.

Mine No. 18 of the M. K. & T. coal department, located at Mineral. There were 73 men employed, producing 48,165 tons of coal in 266 days. This mine is very faulty, and the company contemplates suspending work at it.

Mine No. 16 of the Central Coal & Coke Company, located west of Scammon. There were 60 men employed, producing 34,479 tons of coal in 158 days. This mine was worked out during the third quarter of this year.

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Mine No. 42 of the Central Coal and Coke Company, located southwest of Scammon. There were 253 men employed, producing 193,624 tons of coal in 224 days. This is the largest producer in Cherokee county, in fact one of the largest in the state. I ordered manholes put in on the traveling ways for places of refuge, and I also ordered the fan to continue running during the night, as some of the miners were compelled to go home at times owing to the fan being allowed to stop and causing poisonous gases to accumulate.

Mine No. 43 of the Central Coal and Coke Company, located southwest of Scammon. There were 171 men employed, producing 77,893 tons of coal in 124 days. This mine was closed down the greater part of the year. I ordered manholes put in along the traveling ways for places of refuge, which has been complied with.

Mine No. 44 of the Central Coal and Coke Company, located west of Weir. There were 104 men employed, producing 66,086 tons of coal in 152 days. This mine was closed down the greater part of the year. Having been called to inspect the scales at this mine, we found a piece of lead wire in the pea, making a difference of 62,500 pounds. The company returned this amount to the miners. I ordered manholes put in along the traveling ways for places of refuge, which was complied with.

Mine No. 3 of the Fleming Coal Company, located at Turck. There were 42 men employed, producing 32,719 tons of coal in 217 days. This mine is being worked by day labor, mining machines being used to undermine the coal, the company furnishing powder, tools and air machines. Most of the coal is consumed by the Frisco railroad coaling its engines at this mine. We ordered the water taken off of the roadways, which was complied with.

Mine No. 4 of the Fleming Coal Company, located west of Turck. There were 61 men employed, producing 41,631 tons of coal in 187 days. This mine was about to break into an old mine that was filled with water, so I ordered all the rooms stopped that were driven towards this old mine, with the exception of two places. These two rooms were driven day and night and boreholes were drilled twelve feet ahead of the face. When they had drilled through into the old mine they found that there was not as much water as we had contemplated. They had pumped considerable water out of the old mine prior to breaking into it. This mine is practically worked out.

Mine No. 5 of the Fleming Coal Company, located west of Turck. Produced 5481 tons of coal. This mine is worked out.

Mine No. 1 of the Cherokee-Crescent Coal Company, located in West Mineral. There were 138 men employed, producing 103,209 tons of coal in 246 days. This being an old mine, the ventilation was very poor, and we ordered some improvements which would tend to better the condition of the air. This necessitated the closing down of the mine while they were making the repairs. The mine is almost worked out.

Mine No. 2 of the Cherokee-Crescent Coal Company, located north of Roseland. There were 68 men employed, producing 31,582 tons of coal in 119 days. This mine was closed down the greater part of the year. We ordered a number of improvements, which would better the condition of this mine, which were made.

Mine No. 3 of the Fidelity Coal Company, located west of Scammon. There were 81 men employed, producing 28,788 tons of coal in 118 days. This mine was closed down four months during the year. We ordered a number of improvements in the air courses to better the condition of their air. This mine will be worked out in a few months.

Mine No. 5 of the Kansas Fuel Company, located southwest of Scammon. There were 45 men employed, producing 20,851 tons of coal in 170 days. This mine was closed down the last four months of the year.

Mine No. 7 of the Norton Coal Company, located southwest of Cherokee. There were 92 men employed, producing 47,217 tons of coal in



202 days. We ordered a number of improvements made to better the condition of the air.

Mine No. 8 of the Fidelity Coal and Mining Company, located two miles north of Mineral. There were 71 men employed, producing 34,316 tons of coal in 249 days. This mine is almost worked out.

Mine No. 9 of the Fidelity Coal and Mining Company, located at Stone City. There were 185 men employed, producing 110,334 tons of coal in 168 days. This mine was closed down three months during the year. I recommended a number of improvements to better the condition of the air, and the traveling way to the escape shaft, which were complied with. I also ordered manholes to be put in along the traveling ways.

Mine No. 18 of the J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Company, located south of Scammon. There were 79 men employed, producing 45,319 tons of coal in 182 days. This mine is operated by mining machines. A number of improvements were made which will help to better the condition of the air and of the traveling ways.

Mine No. 19 of the J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Company, located southwest of Scammon. There were 51 men employed, producing 33,041 tons of coal in 188 days. A number of improvements were made that will help to better the condition of this mine.

Mine No. 20 of the J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Company, located southwest of Scammon. There were 89 men employed, producing 35,351 tons of coal in 110 days. This mine was closed down during the last three months of this year. This is a new mine and will become one of the large producers of this county.

Mine C of the Geo. K. Mackie Fuel Company, located southwest of Scammon. There were 191 men employed, producing 166,708 tons of coal in 184 days. I recommended a number of improvements to better the condition of the mine.

Mine F of the Geo. K. Mackie Fuel Company, located southwest of Scammon. There were 56 men employed, producing 28,888 tons of coal in 208 days. This is a new mine, and indications are that it will be one of the large producers.

Mine No. 1 of the Scammon Fuel Company, located north of West Mineral. There were 91 men employed, producing 70,719 tons of coal in 235 days. A number of improvements were made in the past year, that will tend to better the condition of this mine.

Mine No. 2 of the Weir Junction Coal Company, located south of Cherokee. There were 28 men employed, producing 14,970 tons of coal in 211 days. This is an old mine and is almost worked out.

Mine No. 12 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, located in Carona. There were 156 men employed, producing 99,967 tons of coal in 235 days. There was considerable complaint filed in this office in regard to the condition of this mine. I inspected it immediately after assuming the duties of office. I ordered an overcast put in and a number of other improvements. The company seemed to be inclined to disregard my orders, as they showed no intention of making any repairs, so I ordered the mine closed down until the repairs were completed.

Mine No. 9 of the Clemens & Son Coal Company, located southwest of Scammon. There were 94 men employed, producing 64,991 tons of coal in 181 days. A number of improvements were made during the year which will better the condition of the air and traveling ways.

Larson Brothers Coal Company, located at Weir. There were 27 men employed, producing 17,760 tons of coal in 163 days. This is a small mine.

Mine No. 2 of the J. A. Robertson Coal Company, located south of Weir. There were 47 men employed, producing 6000 tons of coal in 25 days. This is a small mine and was closed almost the entire year.

Mine No. 1 of the Mayer Coal Company, located southeast of Mineral. There were 88 men employed, producing 50,518 tons of coal in 234 days.

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A number of improvements have been made during the last year in this mine, which will better the condition of the air and traveling ways considerably.

Mine No. 4 of the Mayer Coal Company, located south of Cherokee. There were 58 men employed, producing 31,044 tons of coal in 228 days. Upon our first inspection of this mine we found that it was almost impossible for the men to get to the escape shaft on account of water, and I also found that they were working some of these entries under the low back-entry system. I ordered the traveling way to the escape shaft cleaned out, and discontinuance of turning rooms under the low back entry, which was all complied with. I also ordered a traveling way cut in the side of the hoisting shaft at the bottom, in compliance with the mining law.

Mine No. 5 of the Mayer Coal Company, located southeast of Mineral. There were 48 men employed, producing 21,882 tons of coal in 198 days. This is a small mine and is almost worked out.

Mine No. 6 of the Mayer Coal Company, located northwest of West Mineral. There were 139 men employed, producing 92,355 tons of coal in 249 days. This is a new mine, and upon my first inspection I found that there was an insufficient amount of air, and considerable dust was allowed to accumulate on the roadways. It became necessary for me to order this mine closed down while the repairs were being made.

Mine No. 8 of the Columbus Coal Company, located northwest of Stippville. There were 81 men employed, producing 53,610 tons of coal in 181 days. This is a very wet mine, and upon my first inspection of this mine the traveling ways were in a deplorable condition. I also found that the first south on the east side was extremely dangerous, as the roof had cut to a considerable height and the entry was coming together. I ordered the traveling ways put in better shape, and the first south entry on the east side of the mine to suspend operation, which was complied with.

LEAVENWORTH COUNTY.

Leavenworth county mines are worked on the long-wall system, each miner having his separate roadway. The coal vein is 22 inches thick and lies at a depth of 740 feet. Considerable gas is generated in these mines, necessitating fire bosses to examine the mines every morning before the men go into their respective working places.

Mine No. 1 of the Home-Riverside Coal Company, located in Leavenworth. There were 225 men employed, producing 78,780 tons of coal in 203 days. Immediately after assuming the duties of this office I ordered one of the main air courses to be cleaned out, as it had almost come tight together, owing to caves and side pressure. It required almost a year to complete the work. It made a wonderful improvement, as there is not so much resistance on the air as there had been.

Mine No. 2 of the Home-Riverside Coal Company, located south of Leavenworth. There were 164 men employed, producing 47,558 tons of coal in 158 days. This mine closed during the fourth quarter of the year. A number of improvements were made during the year which will better the condition of the mine.

Mine No. 3 of the Home-Riverside Coal Company, located north of Leavenworth. There were 95 men employed, producing 34,089 tons of coal in 210 days. The cribbing in the main shaft was in bad shape, it being rotten, rendering it dangerous. I ordered part of the main shaft retimbered, which was done immediately.

Mine No. 1 of the Carr Coal Mining and Manufacturing Company, located south of Leavenworth. There were 194 men employed, producing 59,111 tons of coal in 193 days. The traveling way to the escape shaft was in very bad shape. I ordered this attended to at once. I also ordered the steam pipe connected to the engine at the escape shaft, which was complied with.



The Kansas state mine is located at Lansing, being connected with the A. T. & S. F. railway. The shaft is just outside of the prison walls, and only inmates of the prison are employed in mining coal. The state is putting in a steel fan and a steel tippie or head house, which will improve the air and make it safer, as there will be less danger of fire. This is the most up-to-date mine in the state. There were on an average 301 inmates mining coal, producing 68,807 tons.

LINN COUNTY.

Linn county mines are worked on the long-wall system, each miner having his separate roadway. The coal vein varies from 30 to 36 inches.

OSAGE COUNTY.

Osage county mines are worked on the long-wall system, each miner having his own separate roadway. The coal vein ranges from 13 to 17 inches, and the coal lies at a depth of from 25 to 150 feet. The coal in Osage City averages 13 inches, and that in Burlingame and Scranton averages 17 inches. These mines are ventilated by furnace, and the working face serves as the main air course. Sometimes the mine foreman becomes derelict in his duties and neglects to keep the fires up in the furnace, causing a stagnation in the ventilation. When we receive complaint of bad air in these mines we find that this is mostly the cause. Platform scales are used at all the mines to weigh the miners' coal, and the scales are set at the average weight of the empty mine cars.

Mine No. 14 of the Jackson-Walker Coal Company, located southwest of Scranton. There were 53 men employed, producing 6421 tons of coal in 106 days. This mine was closed down the greater part of the year.

Mine No. 29 of the Jackson-Walker Coal Company, located south of Peterton. There were 75 men employed, producing 2677 tons of coal in 35 days. This mine worked only a few months during the winter.

Mine No. 30 of the Jackson-Walker Coal Company, located southwest of Peterton. There were 46 men employed, producing 5210 tons of coal in 134 days. We ordered stairways to be put in the escape shaft, which was complied with.

Mine No. 4 of the Labor Exchange Branch No. 223, located northwest of Osage City. There were 62 men employed, producing 12,063 tons of coal in 192 days. This is the largest producer in Osage county, and is equipped with an electric hoist, which is quite an improvement over the horse hoist.

Central Coal and Mining Company, located east of Burlingame. There were 22 men employed, producing 4900 tons of coal in 225 days. There was considerable improvement made in this mine during the year, which will better the condition of the mine in general.

Black Diamond Coal Company, located southwest of Burlingame. There were 29 men employed, producing 5411 tons of coal in 186 days.

Ed Hotchkiss Coal Company, located southwest of Burlingame. There were 16 men employed, producing 1637 tons of coal in 135 days. This mine was closed down the greater part of the year. We ordered stairways placed in the escape shaft, which was complied with.

A. W. Granstrom Coal Company, located west of Osage City. There were 22 men employed, producing 3511 tons of coal in 174 days. The stairway in the air shaft was not partitioned, it being almost impossible for the men to use the stairway on account of the smoke from the furnace. I ordered this to be partitioned or another escape shaft put in; so they used an old mine, which they had broken into, for the escape shaft.

Coughlin Coal Company mine, located northeast of Peterton. There were 28 men employed, producing 3208 tons of coal in 124.

Little Italy Coal Company mine, located south of Burlingame. There were 15 men employed, producing 1255 tons of coal in 80 days. This