

## State inspector of coal mines reports

### Section 83, Pages 2461 - 2490

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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## State inspector of coal mines reports

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONCLUDED.

Office No.	Number of days worked.	Average tons per miner.	Wages paid.			Casualties.		Number of 25-pound kegs of powder used.	Pounds of dynamite used.	Remarks.
			Mining price per ton.	Under-ground day wage.	Top day wage.	Killed.	Injured.			
1	242	1,036	\$0.78	\$2.84	\$2.25	1	12	13,330		
2	240	897	.78	2.84	2.25		26	12,871		
3	139	828	.78	2.84	2.25		2	1,508		Mine idle during last quarter.
4	239	1,516	.78	2.84	2.25		1	4,274		
5	223	785	.78	2.84	2.25		5	4,391		
6	184	692	.78	2.84	2.25		19	6,509		
7	121	679	.78	2.84	2.25		7	6,051		
8	186	862	.78	2.84	2.25	3	32	12,222		Idle during last quarter.
9	193	841	.78	2.84	2.25		34	9,727		
10	127	860	.78	2.84	2.25	2	23	7,526		Idle during last quarter.
11	129	675	.78	2.84	2.25		20	6,395		Idle during last quarter.
12	183	722	.78	2.84	2.25		21	8,851		
13	189	798	.78	2.84	2.25		52	10,828		
14	191	799	.78	2.84	2.25		6	3,363		
15	110	652	.78	2.84	2.25	1	21	6,373		Idle during last quarter.
16	230	799	.78	2.84	2.25		2	3,861	1,850	
17	168	728	.78	2.84	2.25		2	2,157		
18	177	724	.78	2.84	2.25		36	10,232		
19	179	802	.78	2.84	2.25		8	6,037		
20	155	1,002	.78	2.84	2.25	2	7	3,240		Abandoned during last quarter.
21	115	702	.78	2.84	2.25	1	26	5,857		Idle during last quarter.
22	147	555	.78	2.84	2.25		15	7,819		Idle during last quarter.
23	244	803	.78	2.84	2.25		8	4,544		
24	121	541	.78	2.84	2.25		15	4,779		Idle during last quarter.
25	175	543	.78	2.84	2.25		13	9,411		
26	217	709	.78	2.84	2.25		11	9,190		
27	214	792	.78	2.84	2.25	1	7	9,197		
28	248	783	.78	2.84	2.25		2	5,064		
29	64	215	.78	2.84	2.25		6	962		New mine, one quarter only.
30	220	751	.78	2.84	2.25	1	23	10,484	25	
31	223	795	.78	2.84	2.25		2	2,591		
32	254	769	.78	2.84	2.25		5	2,980		
33	182	841	.78	2.84	2.25		2	7,587		
34	179	799	.78	2.84	2.25	1	3	4,700		
35	141	814	.78	2.84	2.25		2	5,998		Idle during last quarter.
36	266	1,492	.78	2.84	2.25		5	9,027		
37	224	978	.78	2.84	2.25		2	3,167		
38	273	1,495	.78	2.84	2.25		5	4,036		
39	215	1,051	.78	2.84	2.25		7	8,047		

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40	229	748	78	2.84	2.25	6	4,859	
41	146	781	78	2.84	2.25	2	5,837	Idle during last quarter.
42	190	740	78	2.84	2.25	2	8,162	
43	195	688	78	2.84	2.25	14	7,549	
44	122	659	78	2.84	2.25	1	3,890	Idle during first quarter.
45	104	640	78	2.84	2.25	18	4,953	Idle during last quarter.
46	216	712	78	2.84	2.25	1	11,652	
47	200	987	78	2.84	2.25	1	2,788	
48	250	1,008	78	2.84	2.25	1	9,619	
49	201	501	78	2.84	2.25	3	7,303	
50	270	973	78	2.84	2.25	3	4,530	
51	188	715	78	2.84	2.25	2	5,744	
52	197	811	78	2.84	2.25	2	1,765	1,900
53	70	300	78	2.84	2.25		75	
54	70	250	78	2.84	2.25		40	
55	158	600	78	2.84	2.25		120	
56	61	283	78	2.84	2.25		35	
57	240	694	78	2.84	2.25		420	250
58	60	175	78	2.84	2.25		30	
59	62	300	78	2.84	2.25		48	
60	82	199	78	2.84	2.25		87	325
61	181	627	78	2.84	2.25	4	1,605	Mine abandoned.
62	294	510	78	2.84	2.25		650	350
63	64	260	78	2.84	2.25		37	
64	75	350	78	2.84	2.25		400	
65	50	168	78	2.84	2.25		250	500
66	20						110	
67	181					2	493	
68	98						51	Idle during last half.
69	188						2,449	
70	274						1,194	
71	317					4	1,850	
72	260						745	1,600
73	100					3	242	1,520
74	211						704	
75	190						745	
						18	575	346,408
								8,620

Report Ending December 31, 1915.



## State inspector of coal mines reports

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN CHEROKEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915.

Office No.	NAME OF OPERATOR.	Postoffice address.	Name or number of mine.	Name of superintendent.	Location of mine.
1	Central Coal and Coke Co.	Kansas City	39	Wm. Harkes	3 miles northwest of Weir.
2	Central Coal and Coke Co.	Kansas City	42	Wm. Harkes	3 miles southwest of Scammon.
3	Central Coal and Coke Co.	Kansas City	43	Wm. Harkes	1/2 mile west of Turk.
4	Central Coal and Coke Co.	Kansas City	44	Wm. Harkes	3 miles west of Weir.
5	J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Co.	Weir	18	R. A. Gray	3 miles south of Scammon.
6	J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Co.	Weir	19	R. A. Gray	3 miles southwest of Scammon.
7	J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Co.	Weir	20	R. A. Gray	4 miles southwest of Scammon.
8	Fidelity Coal Mining Co.	Kansas City	7	Jos. Humble	2 1/2 miles northwest of Scammon.
9	Fidelity Coal Mining Co.	Kansas City	9	Jos. Humble	Stone City.
10	Mayer Coal Co.	Kansas City	1	Jos. Humble	1 1/2 miles southeast of Mineral.
11	Mayer Coal Co.	Kansas City	4	Jos. Humble	4 miles north of Scammon.
12	Mayer Coal Co.	Kansas City	5	Jos. Humble	3 miles northwest of Mineral.
13	Mayer Coal Co.	Kansas City	6	Jos. Humble	3 miles northwest of Mineral.
14	Clemens Coal Co.	Pittsburg	9	Frank Thomas	3 1/2 miles southwest of Scammon.
15	Fidelity Coal and Mining Co.	Kansas City	8	Jos. Humble	Stone City.
15 1/2	Fidelity Coal Mining Co.	Mineral	11	J. Humble	3 1/2 miles northeast of Mineral.
16	M. K. & T. Coal Dept.	Parsons	8	J. H. Hibben	1/2 mile southeast of West Mineral.
17	M. K. & T. Coal Dept.	Parsons	15	J. H. Hibben	1 mile northeast of East Mineral.
18	M. K. & T. Coal Dept.	Parsons	16	J. H. Hibben	1 1/2 miles southeast of East Mineral.
19	Cherokee Crescent Coal Co.	Pittsburg	2	Geo. Mack	1 1/4 miles northeast of Carona.
20	Western Coal & Mining Co.	Pittsburg	12	Phil Roeser	1/2 mile west of Carona.
21	Geo. K. Mackie Fuel Co.	Scammon	F	J. W. Morton	1 1/2 miles southwest of Scammon.
22	Geo. K. Mackie Fuel Co.	Scammon	C	J. W. Morton	2 1/2 miles southwest of Scammon.
23	Scammon Fuel Co.	Scammon	1	John Barr	1 1/4 miles northwest of West Mineral.
24	Columbus Coal Co.	Columbus	8	Chris Newlands	2 1/2 miles northwest of Turk.
25	Larson Bros. Coal Co.	Weir	1	L. A. Larson	2 1/2 miles southwest of Weir.
26	Elliott Coal Co.	Scammon	1	Chas. Elliott	Scammon.
27	Atkinson Coal Co.	Scammon	2	Thos. Atkinson	1 1/2 miles southeast of Scammon.
28	Mallam & Halstead Coal Co.	Weir	1	John Mallam	3/4 mile north of Weir.
29	Pankin Coal Co.	Scammon	1	H. Pankin	Scammon.
30	Fleming Coal Co.	Pittsburg	3	H. C. Jones	Skidmore.
31	Besse Cockerill Coal Co.	Pittsburg	1	C. C. Cockerill	1 1/2 miles south of Weir.
32	Roy Millner Coal Co.	Weir	1	A. W. Ray	Sec. 3, twp. 32, Range 24.
33	Skidmore Patterson Coal Co.	Weir	1	J. D. Robinson	1 mile south of Scammon.
34	Junior Coal & Mining Co.	Weir	1	Jas. Reed	3 miles northeast of Weir.
35	Junior Coal & Mining Co.	Weir	1	Jas. Reed	2 miles south of Scammon.
36	Pittsburg-Scammon Coal Co.	Pittsburg	1	H. M. Miller	Sec. 8, twp. 32, Range 23.

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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN CHEROKEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONTINUED.

Mine No.	Railroad connections.	Kind of opening.	Kind of power.	Tons of coal produced.				Average number of employees.					
				Lump.	Nut and slack.	Mine run.	Total output.	Miners.	Boys.	Under-ground day men.	Total under-ground.	Top men.	Grand total.
1	Frisco	Shaft	Steam	13,442	5,259		18,701	58	11	27	96	16	112
2	Frisco	Shaft	Steam	81,671	41,199	1,548	124,418	144	26	43	213	16	229
3	Frisco	Shaft	Steam	53,272	27,230	924	81,426	105	13	27	145	26	171
4	Frisco	Shaft	Steam	29,962	11,553	2,538	44,053	65	5	19	89	10	99
5	Frisco	Shaft	Steam	45,026	15,987		61,013	80		22	102	10	112
6	Frisco	Shaft	Steam	4,586	1,529		6,115	19		6	25	3	28
7	Frisco	Shaft	Steam	154,907	54,475		209,382	188		37	225	15	240
8	Mo. Pacific	Shaft	Steam			79,488	79,488	116	2	29	147	9	156
9	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam			96,760	96,760	106	1	23	130	12	142
10	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam			12,985	12,985	16		3	19	3	22
11	Mo. Pacific and Frisco	Shaft	Steam			62,453	62,453	98	1	19	118	8	126
12	Frisco	Shaft	Steam			45,287	45,287	33		7	40	3	43
13	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam			187,535	187,535	122	2	23	147	10	157
14	Frisco	Shaft	Steam	74,627	51,407	8,700	134,734	108	3	22	133	10	143
15	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam			2,669	2,669	33			33	1	34
15a	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam			286	20,241	21		8	29	5	34
16	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam	12,632	7,323		20,241	21		16	74	7	81
17	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam	47,160	21,421	380	68,961	58		5	22	4	26
18	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam	13,994	11,711	134	25,839	17		20	102	8	110
19	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam	26,072	18,418	269	44,759	82		7	28	2	30
20	Mo. Pacific	Shaft	Steam	11,117	5,979		17,096	21		26	200	13	213
21	Frisco	Shaft	Steam			164,889	164,889	171	3	10	36	5	41
22	Frisco	Shaft	Steam			4,674	26,329	26	1	7	34	4	38
23	M. K. & T.	Shaft	Steam			17,233	17,233	19		9	28	4	32
24	Frisco	Shaft	Steam			7,340	7,340	16		2	18	4	22
25	Frisco	Shaft	Steam			44	12,947	17		4	21	2	23
26	Mo. Pacific	Shaft	Steam	6,845	6,058		12,903	5		1	6	2	8
27	None	Shaft	Steam			4,319	4,319	5		1	6	1	7
28	None	Shaft	Steam			4,011	4,011	5		1	6	1	7
29	None	Shaft	Steam			2,340	2,340	8		1	9	1	10
30	Frisco	Strip pit	Steam	3,266	11,329	18,555	33,150					34	34
31	Frisco	Strip pit	Steam	6,547	13,283	13,656	33,486					33	33
32	Frisco	Strip pit	Steam			23,712	23,712					33	33
33	Frisco	Strip pit	Steam			17,374	17,374					45	45
34	Frisco	Strip pit	Steam	6,526	20,630	11,462	38,618					33	33
35	Frisco	Strip pit	Steam	289	4,164	7,640	12,063					32	32
36	Frisco	Strip pit	Steam	12,727	21,435	2,696	36,858						
Totals				604,668	350,396	828,230	1,783,294	1,783	68	424	2,275	447	2,719

Report Ending December 31, 1915.

## State inspector of coal mines reports

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN CHEROKEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONCLUDED.

Order No.	Number of days worked.	Average tons per miner.	Wages paid.			Casualties.		Number of 25-pound kegs of powder used.	Pounds of dynamite used.	Remarks.
			Mining price per ton.	Under-ground day wage.	Top day wage.	Killed.	Injured.			
1	81	323	\$0.78	\$2.84	\$2.25		6	1,291		Abandoned December 31, 1914.
2	173	864	.78	2.84	2.25		9	7,437		
3	172	775	.78	2.84	2.25		12	3,610		
4	224	678	.78	2.84	2.25		7	3,765		
5	155	763	.78	2.84	2.25		6	4,279		
6	35	322	.78	2.84	2.25			431		Idle during first and last quarter.
7	209	1,114	.78	2.84	2.25			14,942		
8	220	685	.78	2.84	2.25	1	5	5,255		
9	242	913	.78	2.84	2.25		18	8,949		
10	137	811	.78	2.84	2.25		1	848		Closed down permanently during last quarter.
11	230	637	.78	2.84	2.25	1	7	2,785		
12	214	1,372	.78	2.84	2.25	1	1	2,840		
13	255	1,537	.78	2.84	2.25	1	16	6,623		
14	199	1,247	.78	2.84	2.25		13	8,982		
15	27	81	.78	2.84	2.25			250		Leased to Casini Coal Co., on May 1, 1915.
15 1/2						1				New mine just sunk. Killed while cleaning bottom.
16	194	994	.78	2.84	2.25		2	1,720		
17	265	1,180	.78	2.84	2.25		1	5,706		
18	280	1,519	.78	2.84	2.25			2,401		
19	125	546	.78	2.84	2.25			3,855		Closed during last quarter.
20	146	814	.78	2.84	2.25	1	3	1,227		Abandoned in May, 1915.
21	199	964	.78	2.84	2.25		3	9,444		
22	36	179	.78	2.84	2.25			375		Abandoned during second quarter.
23	173	1,012	.78	2.84	2.25		2	1,630		Abandoned in February 26, 1915.
24	215	807	.78	2.84	2.25		1	1,094		Leased to Newland Leggett & Co.
25	145	459	.78	2.84	2.25			540		Idle during last half.
26	175	762	.78	2.84	2.25		2	1,304		
27	81	864	.78	2.84	2.25			200	100	New Mine.
28	134	802	.78	2.84	2.25			268		One quarter, new mine.
29	72	293	.78	2.84	2.25			200		
30	192							1,104		
31	291							590		
32	125							541	2,250	
33	211							450		
34	206							754		
35	179							474		
36	171					1				
	171					7	115	105,696	2,350	

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State Coal Mine Inspection



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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN OSAGE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915.

Office No.	NAME OF OPERATOR.	Post office address.	Name or number of mine.	Name of superintendent.	Location of mine.
1	Jackson-Walker Coal & Mercantile Co.	Wichita	30	John McDivitt	2½ miles north of Osage City.
2	Western Fuel Co.	Osage City	10	Gus Johnson	1 mile west of Osage City.
3	Caughlin Coal Co.	Osage City	3	J. T. Caughlin	½ mile north of Peteron.
4	J. A. Johnson & Co.	Osage City	1	John A. Johnson	¾ mile north of Osage City.
5	A. W. Granstrom Coal Co.	Osage City	5	A. W. Granstrom	1 mile west of Osage City.
6	Labor Exchange Coal Association.	Seranton	1	N. W. Gilley	West of Seranton.
7	Wise Coal Co.	Seranton	1	Joe Wise	2 miles south of Seranton.
8	Chappel & Goebel Coal Co.	Burlingame	3	Geo. Chappel	2½ miles east of Burlingame.
9	Chappel & Goebel Coal Co.	Burlingame	6	Geo. Chappel	2 miles east of Burlingame.
10	Osage City Labor Exchange.	Osage City	4	John Getzinger	1¾ miles north of Osage City.
11	Strunk Coal Co.	Burlingame	2	G. W. Strunk	¾ mile south of Burlingame.
12	Washington Coal Co.	Burlingame		J. L. Morgan	Burlingame.
13	Segelquist Coal Co.	Seranton		— Segelquist	1½ miles northeast of Seranton.
14	Superior Coal Co.	Osage City		Nels Carlson	1½ miles east of Osage City.
15	Elliott Coal Co.	Burlingame	3	Geo. Elliott	2 miles east of Burlingame.
16	Central Coal & Mining Co.	Osage City	1	Neal Hotchkiss	1 mile southeast of Burlingame.
17	Central Coal & Mining Co.	Osage City	2	Neal Hotchkiss	Burlingame.
18	Osage City Cooperative Coal and Mining Co.	Osage City	1	Thos. Moore	2 miles north of Osage City.
19	Black Diamond Fuel Co.	Osage City	Black Diamond.	John Forsa	1 mile west of Osage City.
20	Black Diamond Coal Co.	Burlingame		L. P. Brown	Burlingame.
21	Ed. Hotchkiss Coal Co.	Burlingame	6	Ed. Hotchkiss	Burlingame.

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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN OSAGE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONTINUED.

Office No.	Railroad connections.	Kind of opening.	Kind of power.	Tons of coal produced.				Average number of employees.					
				Lump.	Nut and slack.	Mine run.	Total output.	Miners.	Boys.	Under-ground day men.	Total under-ground.	Top men.	Grand total.
1	Santa Fe	Shaft	Steam	16,819			16,819	42		26	68	5	73
2	Mo. Pacific	Shaft	Horse	4,190			4,190	32			32		32
3	Santa Fe	Shaft	Horse	2,700			2,700	18		1	19		20
4	Santa Fe	Shaft	Horse	2,140			2,140	11			11		12
5	Mo. Pacific	Shaft	Horse	6,483			6,483	30		15	45		46
6	Santa Fe	Shaft	Horse	7,035			7,035	27		1	28		29
7	None	Shaft	Horse	300			300	2			2		2
8	Santa Fe	Shaft	Horse	3,008			3,008	27		2	29		30
9	Santa Fe	Shaft	Horse	7,575			7,575	43		2	45		47
10	Santa Fe	Shaft	Electric	16,126			16,126	77		8	85		88
11	Santa Fe	Shaft	Horse	2,800			2,800	12		1	13		14
12	None	Shaft	Horse	4,100			4,100	16		3	19		19
13	None	Shaft	Horse	250			250	4			4		4
14	None	Shaft	Horse	766			766	8			8		9
15	Santa Fe	Shaft	Horse	8,308			8,308	29		1	30		31
16	None	Shaft	Horse	4,650			4,650	11		1	12		13
17	Santa Fe	Shaft	Horse	4,340			4,340	12		1	13		14
18	Santa Fe	Shaft	Electric	3,126			3,126	16		1	17		18
19	Mo. Pacific	Shaft	Horse	4,590			4,590	26		2	28		29
20	Mo. Pacific	Shaft	Horse	950			950	12		2	14		15
21	Santa Fe	Shaft	Steam	1,750			1,750	6		1	7		8
	Total			102,006			102,006	461		68	539	24	553

State Coal Mine Inspection



## State inspector of coal mines reports

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN OSAGE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONCLUDED.

Office No.	Number of days worked.	Average tons per miner.	Wages paid.			Casualties.		Number of 25-pound kegs of powder used.	Pounds of dynamite used.	Remarks.
			Mining price per ton.	Under-ground day wage.	Top day wage.	Killed.	Injured.			
1	165	400	\$1.70	\$2.84	\$2.50					
2	126	130	1.80	3.13	2.50					
3	113	150	1.71	3.13	2.50					
4	168	198	1.80	2.84	2.50					
5	175	214	2.00	3.13	2.50					
6	210	268	1.65	2.84	2.50					
7	150	150								
8	99	111	1.65	2.84	2.50					
9	136	176	1.65	2.84	2.50					
10	118	209	1.71	2.84	2.75		2			
11	200	232	1.71	3.00	2.25					
12	215	256	1.71	2.84	2.25					
13	30	62	1.80	2.84	2.25					
14	87	96	1.71	2.84	2.25					
15	148	321	1.71	2.84	2.25		1			
16	190	422	1.65	3.13	2.50					
17	236	370	1.71	2.84	2.50					
18	132	132	1.76	3.13	2.50					
19	173	137	1.76	3.13	2.50					
20	36	89	1.71	3.13	2.50					
21	126	291	1.71	3.13	2.50					
	144						3			

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### COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN FRANKLIN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915.

Office No.	NAME OF OPERATOR.	Postoffice address.	Name or number of mine.	Name of superintendent.	Location of mine.
1	W. E. Wertz.....	Ransomville.		W. E. Wertz.....	1 mile west of Ransomville.
2	Frank Caple.....	Pomona.		Frank Caple.....	Pomona.
3	William Blair.....	Ransomville.		William Blair.....	1 1/2 miles northwest of Ransomville.
4	Caple Coal Co.....	Ransomville.		Geo. Caple.....	Ransomville.
5	William Taylor.....	Williamsburg.		William Taylor.....	1 mile south of Williamsburg.
6	Ed. Price.....	Ransomville.		Ed. Price.....	Williamsburg.
7	Geo. Caple, jr.....	Ransomville.		Geo. Caple, jr.....	1 mile northwest of Ransomville.
8	William Glendon.....	Ransomville.		William Glendon.....	Ransomville.

### COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN FRANKLIN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONTINUED.

Office No.	Railroad connections.	Kind of opening.	Kind of power.	Tons of coal produced.				Average number of employees.					
				Lump.	Nut and slack.	Mine run.	Total output.	Miners.	Boys.	Under-ground day men.	Total under-ground.	Top men.	Grand total.
1	None.....	Drift.....	Horse.....			475	475	8			8		8
2	None.....	Drift.....	Horse.....			350	350	2			2	1	3
3	None.....	Drift.....	Horse.....			310	310	3			3		3
4	None.....	Drift.....	Horse.....			625	625	4			4	1	5
5	None.....	Drift.....	Horse.....			210	210	3			3		3
6	None.....	Drift.....	Horse.....			175	175	2			2		2
7	None.....	Drift.....	Horse.....			125	125	2			2		2
8	None.....	Shaft.....	Horse.....			730	730	9			9	1	10
Totals.....						3,000	3,000	33			33	3	36

State Coal Mine Inspection

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COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN FRANKLIN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONCLUDED.

Office No.	Number of days worked.	Average tons per miner.	Wages paid.			Casualties.		Number of 25-pound kegs of powder used.	Pounds of dynamite used.	Remarks.
			Mining price per ton.	Under-ground day wage.	Top day wage.	Killed.	Injured.			
1	100	59								Estimated.
2		175								Estimated.
3		103								Estimated.
4	180	156								Estimated.
5	100	70								Estimated.
6	80	87								Estimated.
7	50	62								Estimated.
8	185	81								Estimated.
	96									

COAL-MINING IN LEAVENWORTH COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915.

Office No.	NAME OF OPERATOR.	Postoffice address.	Name or number of mine.	Name of superintendent.	Location of mine.
1	Carr Coal and Mining and Manufacturing Co.	Leavenworth.	Carr mine.	J. J. Glynn.	South of Leavenworth.
2	Home-Riverside Coal Co.	Leavenworth.	1	C. N. Fish.	South of Leavenworth.
3	Home-Riverside Coal Co.	Leavenworth.	2	C. N. Fish.	South of Leavenworth.
4	Kansas State Penitentiary Mine.	Lansing.	Penitentiary	George Skidmore	Lansing.

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State Coal Mine Inspection

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN LEAVENWORTH COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONTINUED.

Office No.	Railroad connections.	Kind of opening.	Kind of power.	Tons of coal produced.				Average number of employees.					
				Lump.	Nut and slack.	Mine run.	Total output.	Mines.	Boys.	Under-ground day men.	Total under-ground.	Top men.	Grand total.
1	Santa Fe	Shaft	Steam			52,161	52,161	160		21	181	18	199
2	Mo. Pacific	Shaft	Steam			88,113	88,113	197		19	216	16	232
3	Union Pacific	Shaft	Steam			43,953	43,953	139		51	190	24	214
4	Santa Fe, Mo. Pacific, Union Pacific.	Shaft	Steam										
	Totals					184,227	184,227	496		91	587	58	645

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN LEAVENWORTH COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONCLUDED.

Office No.	Number of days worked.	Average tons per miner.	Wages paid.			Casualties.		Number of 25-pound kees of powder used.	Pounds of dynamite used.	Remarks.
			Mining price per ton.	Under-ground day wage.	Top day wage.	Killed.	Injured.			
1	179		\$1.05	\$2.34	\$2.25	1	1		345	Idle during year.
2	218		1.05	2.84	2.35	1	7		148	Convict labor.
3	299								970	
4	174					2	8		1,463	





COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN LINN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915.

Office No.	NAME OF OPERATOR.	Postoffice address.	Name or number of mine.	Name of superintendent.	Location of mine.
1	Inter-State Coal Co.	Pleasanton.	Tolliver mine.	W. R. Edwards.	3 miles east of Pleasanton.
2	Whited Coal Co.	Pleasanton.	1.	Elmer Whited.	3 miles east of Pleasanton.
3	Thirlwell Coal Co.	Pleasanton.	1.	Wm. J. Thirlwell.	1 mile north of Pleasanton.
4	J. T. Kirkendall Coal Co.	La Cygne.	Black Diamond.	Jacob Moody.	1 mile west of La Cygne.
5	J. T. Martin Coal Co.	La Cygne.	1.	J. T. Martin.	1 mile east of La Cygne.
6	Boicourt Coal Co.	Boicourt.		C. Green.	Boicourt.
7	Pavton Coal Co.	Pleasanton.		W. T. Izatt.	6 miles east of Pleasanton.

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN LINN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONTINUED.

Office No.	Railroad connections.	Kind of opening.	Kind of power.	Tons of coal produced.				Average number of employees.					
				Lamp.	Nut and slack.	Mine run.	Total output.	Miners.	Boys.	Under-ground day men.	Total under-ground.	Top men.	Grand total.
1	Mo. Pacific.	Shaft.	Steam.			6,560	6,560	13		2	15	2	17
2	Mo. Pacific.	Slope.	Steam.			6,175	6,175	12		1	13	2	15
3	Frisco.	Shaft.	Horse.			3,400	3,400	10		1	11	1	12
4	None.	Shaft.	Horse.			1,650	1,650	5			5	1	6
5	None.	Shaft.	Horse.			675	675	2			2	1	3
6	Frisco.	Shaft.	Steam.			215	215	5		1	6	3	9
7	None.	Shaft.	Horse.			110	110	2			2	1	3
	Totals.					18,785	18,785	49		5	54	11	65

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### FATAL ACCIDENTS.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915, there were twenty-eight fatal accidents in and around the coal mines of the state of Kansas. These accidents, their causes and mines where they occurred are shown in the following table:

#### SHOTFIRERS KILLED (7):

Albert Stimac, mine No. 48, Central Coal & Coke Co.....	Nov. 23, 1914.
Charles Campbell, mine No. 7, Spencer-Newland Coal Co.....	Dec. 18, 1914.
George Spoonhour, mine No. 7, Spencer-Newland Coal Co.....	Dec. 18, 1914.
Wm. Thomas Franklin, mine No. 18, Western Coal & Mining Co.....	Dec. 23, 1914.
Henry Hecksher, mine No. 47, Central Coal & Coke Co.....	Feb. 12, 1915.
William Titter, mine No. 47, Central Coal & Coke Co.....	Feb. 12, 1915.
William Metcalf, mine No. 18, Western Coal & Mining Co.....	Feb. 26, 1915.

#### KILLED BY FALLS OF ROCK (11):

Frank Metzger, mine No. 5, Mayer Coal Co.....	July 31, 1914.
Frix Norbet, mine No. 4, Mayer Coal Co.....	Sept. 23, 1914.
Frank Melka, mine No. 9, Cherokee & Pittsburg Coal & Mining Co.....	Sept. 24, 1914.
James Lambie, mine No. 7, Fidelity Coal Mining Co.....	Sept. 28, 1914.
Felix Augustine, mine No. 9, Howe Coal Co.....	Oct. 6, 1914.
Wm. Calamese, Carr mine, Carr Coal & Mining Co.....	Nov. 28, 1914.
Newton Tomlin, mine No. 12, Western Coal and Mining Co.....	Jan. 8, 1915.
Ed. Leslie, mine No. 15, Western Coal & Mining Co.....	Jan. 7, 1915.
Joseph Makar, mine No. 21, Wear Coal Co.....	Feb. 3, 1915.
Tony Weisgerber, mine No. 6, Nevius Coulter Coal Co.....	April 9, 1915.
James Brennan, mine No. 6, Mayer Coal Co.....	May 12, 1915.

#### KILLED BY POWDER EXPLOSION (1):

Peter Chiro, mine No. 15, J. R. Crowe Coal & Mining Co.....	Mar. 18, 1915.
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#### KILLED BY DYNAMITE EXPLOSION (1):

Baptista Simion, mine No. 5, Chapman Coal Co.....	Dec. 17, 1914.
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#### ELECTROCUTED (1):

Mervel Ellis, mine No. 1, Nevius Coal Co.....	Nov. 24, 1914.
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#### KILLED BY MACHINERY (1):

R. E. Fennimore, strip pit No. 1, Pittsburg-Scammon Coal Mining Co.,	Feb. 12, 1915.
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#### KILLED BY CAGE (1):

Bert Lyons, mine No. 11, Fidelity Coal Mining Co.....	June 22, 1915.
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#### KILLED BY RAILROAD CARS (1):

Unknown party (colored), mine No. 15, Western Coal & Mining Co.,	Nov. 21, 1914.
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#### KILLED BY FALLING DOWN MINE (1):

Frank Orenik, mine No. 15, Western Coal & Mining Co.....	Nov. 21, 1914.
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#### DIED OF HEART DISEASE IN MINE (1):

John Kulla, mine No. 2, Home-Riverside Coal Co.....	July 20, 1914.
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#### KILLED BY EXPLOSION OF DYNAMITE CAP (1):

Phillip Harvey, mine No. 6, Sheridan Coal Co.....	Aug. 31, 1914.
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#### SCALDED TO DEATH BY STEAM (1):

Wm. Knisal, mine No. 17, Wear Coal Co.....	April 25, 1915.
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### FATAL ACCIDENTS IN DETAIL.

1. John Kulla, miner, died of heart disease at mine No. 2 of the Home-Riverside Coal Company on July 20, 1914.

2. Accident at mine No. 5, Mayer Coal Company; Joe Ryan, lessee. Investigated by Clarke, August 1, 1914. Frank Metzger was injured July 31, 1914, at about 3:30 p.m. by fall of rock at the face of his room. Accident occurred in room three, first south off the first west entry. Injured man was engaged in mining off a shot of coal when he was struck by a rock measuring 8 feet long, 4 feet wide and an average of 4 inches in thickness. The room was driven up 38 feet off of entry and was



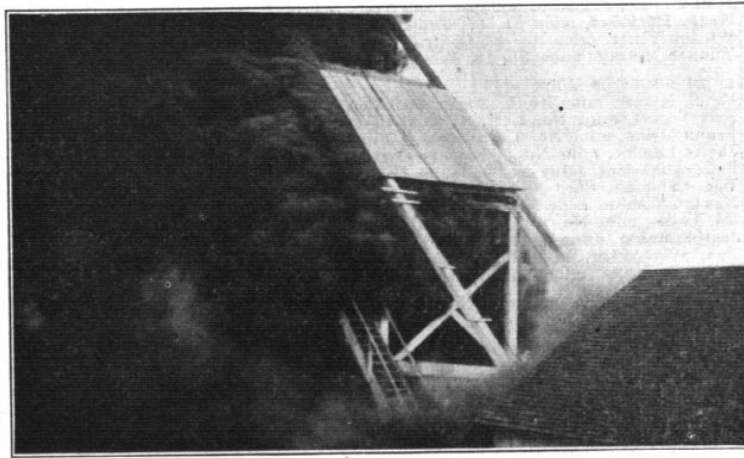
COAL-MINING INDUSTRY IN LINN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915—CONCLUDED.

Office No.	Number of days worked.	Average tons per miner.	Wages paid.			Casualties.		Number of 25-pound kegs of powder used.	Pounds of dynamite used.	Remarks.
			Mining price per ton.	Under-ground day wage.	Top day wage.	Killed.	Injured.			
1	235	504	1.20 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	2.84	2.25		1	234		Data estimated.
2	110	514	.88	2.84	2.25			201		Data estimated.
3	250	340	1.25	2.84	2.25			1		Data estimated.
4	180	330	1.00	2.84	2.25			75		Data estimated.
5	130	337	1.00	2.84	2.25			5		Data estimated.
6	35	43	1.05	3.23	2.25		2	4		Data estimated.
7	30	55								Data estimated.
	139						3	520		



about 20 feet wide at face of room. The rock broke off coal at face. The thickness of vein at face of room was 3 feet 3 inches. I noticed ten 3-foot props lying loose in room. Died on Tuesday, August 6, 1914.

3. Accident at mine No. 6, Sheridan Coal Company. Investigated by Halliday, July 31, 1914. Phillip Harvey, miner, was killed in the north-west entry of the north. From his powder box to the face of the entry it is 53 feet; from the box to the brushing it is 39 feet. There is a hole drilled in the right rib of the entry and the machine is set up for a brushing shot, but the hole is not drilled. About 3 feet inside of the box there is quite a pile of blood in the center of the track, and there are several teeth both inside and outside of the box. Between the box and the face there were two pieces of fuse; one piece was very wet, and both pieces seemed as if they had been burnt.



Snap shot of a mine explosion which occurred at mine No. 7 of the McCormick Coal Company, operated by the Sheridan Coal Company, on November 13, 1915, at about 12:45 p. m., at the moment the explosion appeared on the surface. An electric shot-firing device is used in this mine, which makes it unnecessary for any one to be in the mine while the shots are being fired.

4. Accident at mine No. 4, Mayer Coal Company. Investigated by Clarke, September 23, 1914. Frix Norbet, miner, was fatally injured at the above mine on September 23, 1914, by fall of rock. Accident occurred at about 8:15 a. m. in room 8, off fourth west off main south. The rock measured 23 feet 6 inches long, 24 feet wide, extending from pillar to pillar. It was 12 feet 6 inches from inner edge of rock to face and the body was laying 26 feet back from face of room under the rock. The rock would average 18 inches thick. It was 83 feet from switch on entry to outer edge of rock. The height of vein at face was 2 feet 10 inches and 3 feet 2 inches. I noticed five 3-foot 8-inch props under the southwest end of rock; more props laying under the rock, length not known. There were five 3-foot 6-inch props lying loose in place.

5. Accident at mine No. 9, Cherokee and Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, located at Frontenac, Kan. Investigated by Keegan, September 24, 1914. Frank Melka was killed by a fall of rock at face of brushing in third west off eighth north off eleventh northwest on September 24 at about 12:35 p. m. The entry was 13 feet wide at point where rock fell, and the end of rock is 11 feet from face of entry. It is 4 feet high at point where rock fell along brushing props, and the rock at this point



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is 5½ inches thick. The rock measured 6 feet long, 5 feet wide through center, running to 4 feet wide on inside end and 3 inches thick on inner end.

6. Accident at mine No. 7, Fidelity Coal Mining Company. Investigated by Clarke, September 29, 1914. James Lambi, miner, was killed by fall of rock September 28, 1914. The body was discovered by the shot firer while engaged in shooting the shots of the mine. The accident occurred in room 37 on the third west off the northwest angle entry. The rock fell 34 feet inside of switch and measured 19 feet long, 5 feet wide, 15 inches in center, tapering to fine edge on both sides of rock. The room was driven up 49 feet 8 inches and was 6 feet 8 inches wide 15 feet back from face of room. There was no pillar for 10 feet back from face. Between outer room and room where accident occurred the width of room right at face was 7 feet; the thickness of vein on right-hand side of place was 3 feet 4 inches. There was a bunch of 4-foot props set in crosscut about 6 feet back from face of room. The rock fell diagonally across the track.

7. Accident at mine No. 9, Howe Coal Co., on October 6, 1914. Investigated by Keegan. Felix Augustine, miner, was killed by fall of rock on south side of mine No. 9, Howe Coal Company, at about 10 a. m. The rock that fell extended clear across the face of the room and measured 19½ feet long, 5 feet wide at the point where Augustine was caught, and running to 3 feet wide at outside end, and averaged about 10 inches in thickness. A smooth, wet slip in the roof runs angling along with the room the full distance of the rock fall, and the rock fell off this slip and broke along the coal face. A rock 6 feet long, 1½ foot wide through the center and tapering on both ends to about 10 inches wide, and 9½ inches thick, had broken off the large rock and fell. This piece of rock, it is stated, was resting on Augustine's head and shoulders when he was found. The coal vein measured 2 feet 9 inches at face and the room was driven in a distance of 71 feet from the entry. I found props lying around in the room close to face as follows: One prop 2 feet 5 inches long, three props 2 feet 6 inches long, two props 2 feet 7 inches long, two props 2 feet 8 inches long, and three props 2 feet 9 inches long.

8. Fatal accident on railroad siding of Missouri Pacific at mine No. 15, Western Coal and Mining Company, on November 21, 1914. Investigated by Keegan, November 21, 1914. I found A. T. & S. F. car No. 80,638 standing on north track of siding plainly marked with blood, and appearances were that the deceased young man had been standing on the stirrup on the front end of this car, and as the car passed over the switch, car No. 75,472, A. T. & S. F., standing on south track of siding being too close, his body was caught between these two cars and rolled and mutilated, and his head badly mashed. A watch found on the body by the coroner had stopped at 2:18.

9. Accident at mine No. 1 of the Nevius Coal Company, on November 24, 1914. Investigated by Dwyer, November 24, 1914. Everitt Ellis was found dead by the mine foreman at about 3:30 p. m. in the second angle straight entry about 1000 feet inside the parting. We found five loaded cars at the point above named in a swag in the entry. We could not find any place where the insulation was off the wires.

10. Albert Stimac, shot firer, killed by an explosion, at mine No. 48 of the Central Coal and Coke Company, located at Ringo, Kan., on November 23, 1914. This accident is described in detail under the head of "Explosions."

11. Wm. Calamese, miner, was injured by a fall of rock at Carr mine of the Carr Coal and Mining Company, at Richardson, on November 23, 1914, and died some time later. No report whatever was made of the ac-





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cident by the company to the mine inspection department, therefore no complete report of the accident can be made.

12. Accident to Baptiste Simon at mine No. 5, Chapman Coal Company, December 17, 1914. Investigated by Dwyer. I investigated this accident on the same day that it happened at about three o'clock p. m., When I got to the room they had a part of the man in a car inside of the switch of room No. 1 off the second south. The room was very hot and full of dynamite smoke. The room measured 67 feet to a horseback, and was driven up 19 feet inside of the horseback. The room was 23 feet wide inside of the horseback, and had no crosscut. About half way from the horseback to the face of room in front of the track there was a little round hole busted in the bottom. On the top directly above and to the right it was splattered with blood, and flesh and shreds of clothing were hanging to it. There were no holes drilled in the room, and the tools were laying on left rib, and they did not appear as though they had been used that day. The bits did not show that they had been sharpened. The coal was scattered all over the room and parts of flesh were gathered from the top of the coal.

13 and 14. George Spoonhour, shot firer, and Charles Campbell, shot firer, were killed by an explosion at mine No. 7 of the Spencer-Newland Coal Company, located at Mulberry, Kan., on December 18, 1914. The details of this accident are given under the head of "Explosions."

15. Wm. Thomas Franklin, shot firer, was killed by an explosion at mine No. 18 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, located at Franklin, on December 23, 1914. This accident is described in detail under the head of "Explosions."

16. Accident at mine No. 12, Western Coal and Mining Company on January 6, 1915. Investigated by Fern. Newton Tomlin, miner, was fatally injured by fall of rock in his working place at about 1 o'clock p. m., in the face of north entry off eighth east entry on north side of mine, on January 6, 1915. The entry was widened to a room's width and had been stopped. The rock that fell on Tomlin fell from the face of the brushing in the left corner of his place. There was a slip in the roof that ran northwest and southeast. Tomlin died on the way out to the bottom. The rock that fatally injured Tomlin measured 17 feet 7 inches long, 4 feet 6 inches wide in widest place, and 15 inches thick in the thickest place, and runs to a point at both ends. Three other rocks fell in the place at the same time the rock fell on Tomlin. The distance from rib to left-hand rail is 5 feet 8 inches; from end of rock to face of place, 11 feet 2 inches; width of room, 25 feet; from face of brushing to face of room, 22 feet; height of vein, with a little blackjack taken up, is 46 inches. There were five props 42 inches long, one prop 47 inches long, and four cap pieces in the place. This place was well timbered on the right side of track. The large rock that struck Tomlin fell from the roof on the left side of the place on the left rail, and to about the middle of the track.

17. Accident at Mine No. 15, Western Coal and Mining Company, on January 7, 1915. Investigated by Halliday. Ed Leslie, driver, was killed by a fall of rock in the sixth north entry on the east side of mine No. 15, Western Coal and Mining Company, on January 7. The accident happened between 9 and 10 o'clock. There is quite a swag in the entry about 300 feet from the door, and right here the entry is full of slips. There was a prop set on the left or west side of the entry going in. The driver was coming out with a loaded trip. The first car was off the track, the front end in the swag towards the gob, and the hind end of the car broke the prop that had been set next the rib. There was a big fall of rock. A rock 11 feet long, 6 feet 9 inches wide and about 9 inches thick was on the first car. This rock caught the mule and crippled it so it could not get up.



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The rock on the second car where Leslie was found was 6 feet long, 7 feet 7 inches wide and 10 inches thick. It appears that he had been coming down this grade very fast, as the second car was also off the track and right up against the first car. There were several other rocks, the dimensions of which I did not take.

18. Accident at mine No. 21, Wear Coal Company, on February 3, 1915. Investigated by Keegan, February 3, 1915. Joseph Makar was killed by a fall of rock in room 3 in third north straight entry on west side of the mine at about 8:30 a. m. The room was driven in about 35 feet and the rock fell at the face on the right side of the room. The rock measured 10 feet long, 5 feet wide through the center, and 8 inches thick, tapering to the edges. Deceased had been completely covered by the rock. His cap was lying under the center of the rock fall when I made my examination. The room was 18 feet wide at the point where the rock fell. The rock broke off at the face of the coal and along a slip on outer edge of the fall. The coal vein is 2 feet 11 inches high at the point where the rock fell. I found nineteen 3-foot props, two 3-foot 4-inch props, one 3-foot 2-inch prop, one 2-foot 6-inch prop, and six cap pieces lying in the room.

19 and 20. Henry Hecksher, shot firer, and William Titter, shot firer, were injured by an explosion at mine No. 47 of the Central Coal and Mining Company, located two miles northwest of Frontenac, Kan., on February 12, 1915. Henry Hecksher died the following day, February 13, and William Titter died on February 14, 1915. The details of this accident are referred to under the head of "Explosions."

21. R. E. Fennimore, top man, was fatally injured by clothing being caught in tumbling rod while oiling pump shafting, at strip pit No. 1 of the Pittsburg-Scammon Coal Company, located south of Scammon, Kan., on February 12, 1915.

22. Wm. Metcalf, shot firer, killed by an explosion at mine No. 18 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, located at Franklin, Kan., on February 26, 1915. This accident is described in detail under the head of "Explosions."

23. Fatal accident to Pietro Chiro. Investigated by Halliday. Pietro Chiro and Sam Marresi, miners, were burned by a powder explosion at about 1 p. m. on the 18th day of March, 1915, at the switch of room No. 9 in the second north straight entry on the west side of mine No. 15 of the J. R. Crowe Coal and Mining Company. There is every indication of fire and intense heat on the roof and ribs of the entry. There were some burnt fuse and paper laying on the entry. The paper had the appearance of dummies that had been made up to use for tamping shots and had caught fire. There was a powder keg that had been bursted open at the seam on the side of the keg. From the appearance of this keg there had been an explosion of powder from within the keg, but nothing to show that there had been any attempt to open the keg in any way before it exploded. I found a man's pipe laying on the right rib of the entry at the switch to room No. 9, close beside Marresi's tool box. There was no damage done to the property and nothing disturbed on the entry. Two holes had been drilled in room No. 9 that had not been tamped. I found a part of a keg of powder and several sticks of dynamite lying undisturbed in Marresi's box that was sitting on the entry just outside of the switch of room No. 9. Pietro Chiro died on March 18, 1915.

24. Fatal accident to Frank Orenik. Investigated by Keegan, April 5, 1915. The dead body of a man that later was identified as Frank Orenik was found on top of the east cage at mine No. 15 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, by the fireman, George Potter, at about 6:30 on the morning of April 5, 1915. Potter was about to step on the cage to be raised up to oil the sheave wheels when he made the discovery. I





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was notified and immediately went to the mine and made a careful examination. It was plainly evident that Orenik's death was caused by falling down the shaft about 150 feet and striking the east cage. I learned that the west cage had been left hanging at the ground landing during the night, therefore the east cage was resting in the shaft about 50 feet from the bottom. The shaft is 200 feet deep. In my judgment the exact manner in which Orenik got into the shaft will never be known.

25. Fatal accident to Anton Weisgerber. Investigated by Halliday and Keegan, April 9, 1915. Anton Weisgerber, miner, was killed by a fall of rock in the second working room in fifth south straight entry on east side of mine No. 6 of the Nevius-Coulter Coal Company, at about 9 a. m., April 9, 1915. His body was found under a large pot rock at the face of the room. The rock measured 8 feet 7 inches long, 6 feet 6 inches wide through the center and averaged 6 inches in thickness. The room was driven in a distance of 68 feet from the entry. The roof at the face of room was very "rolly". The room was well timbered. The distance from face to nearest prop to face was 8 feet. There was no evidence of any props having been set up under the pot rock before it fell. The coal vein measured 2 feet 8 inches and there were ten loose props and a few cap pieces lying in the room close to face. These props measured 3 feet 2 inches long.

26. Accident to James Brennan, at mine No. 6, Mayer Coal Company, May 12, 1915. Investigated by Pellegrino and Green. James Brennan, miner, was fatally injured by fall of rock in tenth west back entry off straight north, on north side of mine No. 6 of the Mayer Coal Company, on May 12, 1915. The rock was in shape of a pot rock end, measured 9 feet long, 5 feet 6 inches wide through center, and was 9 inches thick on one end, 10 inches thick in center and tapered to feather edge on other ends. The rock fell right up at face of entry. From face of entry to brushing is 7 feet; coal vein at face is 3 feet 3 inches high. There was a horseback running across face of the entry in a southwest course at about 20 degrees. A brushing shot was drilled and a shot of coal partly mined off next to the face. The rock was estimated by part of the investigating party to weight about two tons. From the face of the entry to where he started to widen out from narrow work was 14 feet. The horseback at the face is stripped 6 feet. From the rock fall to the track was 7 feet. Crosscut on right side was a distance of 8 feet 7 inches towards other entry, but not through. It was 46 feet from the rock fall to where they got props to pry the rock off Brennan. It was 38 feet from rock fall to where his own props were stored; bunch of props lying in crosscut measured 3 feet 2 inches to 3 feet 4 inches. There was 24 feet of 6-foot work, and the entry at the face was 12 feet wide. There were 5 ties and 3 props lying in the entry, used to pry the rock off Brennan. Props are 3 feet 8 inches, 3 feet 3 inches, and 2 feet 10 inches long; also three cap pieces.

27. Accident to Bert Lyons at mine No. 11, Fidelity Coal Mining Company, on June 22, 1915. Investigated by Pellegrino. Upon being notified I immediately proceeded to mine No. 11 of the Fidelity Coal Mining Company, and investigated the accident to Bert Lyons on June 22, 1915. I found that he was killed by being caught between the floor of the north cage on the east side of the bottom and the cap of the ring-set timber. Bert Lyons and E. D. Potter were the only men in the mine. This was the first day that any work was done in the mine since the tibble was built, and they were cleaning up around the bottom. The track on the east side did not line with the north cage, and from the evidence taken they were pulling an empty car off the cage when it jumped the track with the front wheels. While trying to put it on Mr. Lyons stepped over the car on the cage to help put it on, and Mr. Potter was lifting on the car with a straight switch point and slipped and fell.



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While falling he must have touched the plunger of the air bell, which signaled the engineer to hoist the cage. The car was partly on the cage yet, but the cage going up pushed the car out of the way, and from the position that Mr. Lyons was found in it seems that he was trying to get off, or was thrown forward, for he was caught between the floor of the cage and ring-set timber, facing the cribbing. He must have been instantly killed. From the bottom to the plunger of the bell it is 4 feet, and from the mud-sell to the ring-set to the cap of ring-set it is 9 feet and 1 inch. Mr. Lyons was thirty-two years of age and is survived by his widow only.

28. Fatal accident to Wm. Knisel. Investigated by Halliday. Wm. Knisel, fireman, was burned by steam at mine No. 17 of the Wear Coal Company on April 25, 1915, at about 12:30 p. m.

Wm. Knisel, after being duly sworn, says: "I was getting ready to clean my fires, and there was a pipe between two boilers that has been leaking for some time. The leak had been corked several times. When it leaked we would cork it with lead. I went to look at the joint of a "T," and thought the pipe was not screwed in very far. I got some tools and gave the joint a couple of taps and stepped forward, when the pipe bursted and caught me. I had eighty-five pounds of steam. The pipe had been leaking for some time. I am scalded all over, and don't know how long I will be off work."

I was in Topeka on March 21, 1916, and while there the commissioner of labor, Hon. P. J. McBride, informed me that I had not sent him a report on the fatal accident to Wm. Knisel. When I returned to the office I informed the Wear Coal Company that there was no record in this office regarding Knisel's death, and received the following letter from them:

PITTSBURG, KAN., March 22, 1916.

Mr. John Pellegrino, State Mine Inspector, Pittsburg, Kan.:

DEAR SIR—Referring to telephone conversation with reference to fatal accident to Wm. Knisel, fireman at mine No. 17, on April 25, 1915, desire to advise that we find written report made to Mr. Keegan, who was then mine inspector, under date of April 28, 1915. No doubt, on account of change in officials having been made about this time, this report may have been overlooked.

With reference to the accident, desire to advise that Mr. Knisel was attempting to stop a leak of steam at a joint in the steam pipe by means of a hammer and cold chisel; in other words, he was battering the coupling and threads on the pipe in an effort to stop the leak with a full head of steam on the boiler. Evidently, in hammering on the coupling he broke the threads and the pipe came apart, permitting the steam to escape, which burned him very badly and knocked him off the boiler.

He was removed to Mt. Carmel Hospital about the second day following the accident, for treatment, but died on the morning of May 3.

Yours truly,

PHIL ROESER, Superintendent.

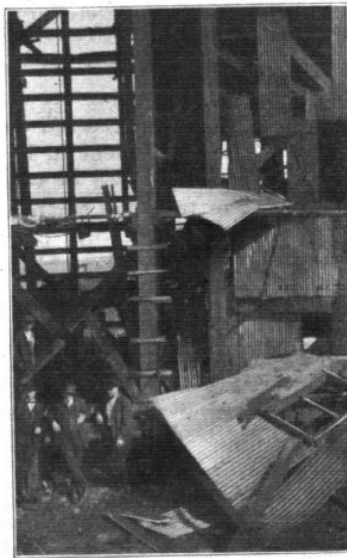
## MINE EXPLOSIONS.

### EXPLOSION AT MINE No. 48, CENTRAL COAL AND COKE COMPANY.

An explosion occurred at mine No. 48, Central Coal and Coke Company, on the evening of November 23, 1914.

I visited the mine on the night of explosion and assisted in prosecuting the search for the shot firer. We found the body of Albert Stimac about ten o'clock at the face of first west back entry on the south side of the mine. I returned to the mine the following day and made a careful examination of the first west straight and back entries

on the south side of the mine and the rooms in said entries. I was accompanied on this examination by the mine management, mine committee, and K. H. Chisholm, of the government Bureau of Mines. We found in room 11 in first west a shot on right rib that had been drilled 5 feet; three feet six inches had been blown off into room 12 end, leaving 1½-foot drill hole standing. This would indicate that the powder in this shot was lying in the drill hole in room 12 end, and when the powder ignited it burst the small amount of coal off, leaving the force of the flame to expand in the air.



On March 23, 1916, an explosion occurred at mine No. 18 of the Western Coal and Mining Company, damaging the mine and tippie to such an extent that the company was unable to operate the mine for over six weeks.

There were two powder boxes blown into the roadway at the mouth of room 12. A full keg of powder was on the roadway at this point and one-half keg in powder box about 15 feet further west; another half keg of powder was lying on the roadway. In room 15 I found a shot drilled 8 feet 2 inches with 2 feet 2 inches cutting or chance. The shot had not blown any coal off, but evidently came back out of the drill hole with considerable force. The hole was wet and the indications were that the miner had left the shot for the shot firer to tamp. The tamping tools were found lying close to the face, as though left there by the shot firer. The shot was 3 feet 3 inches on the heel and gripping slightly. The room was 5 feet 3 inches wide and had been driven in a distance of 36 feet from the entry. There was slight evidence of coking on the props on the entry opposite the mouth of this room. Stimac's body was found lying face downward, with head toward the right-hand rib at the face of first west back entry. The body was 69 feet from the mouth of the room turning, at which we found his lamp and where one shot had been fired and one not lit. The body was almost completely covered with coal from the shots. A car standing on the entry at a point about 13 feet inside of the room where the



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lamp was found was driven inward with considerable force. This room was the second from the face and was driven in about 12 feet from the entry.

Judging from the point at which we found the body and from the indications at the room turning on this entry, where we found Stimac's carbide lamp, and from the fact that only one shot had been fired in this room, it is evident that Stimac was engaged in lighting the shots in this room turning when the explosion took place, and that he was thrown towards the face of the entry by the backward pressure of the explosion and killed; the shots in the entry which he had lit going off afterward, which accounts for his body being almost covered by the loose coal from these shots.

### STATEMENT OF JAMES CORATTO.

James Coratto, being duly sworn, says: "I work in room 15 in first west straight entry. I was at work yesterday. I prepared one shot on left side of my place. I drilled the hole about 7 feet. I cut about 3 feet on right side. I charged the hole with 10 sticks of dynamite and left shot for shot firer to tamp. I put the dynamite in the 3-foot cartridge, splitting the dynamite first, and no black powder was put into the cartridge. I have worked about three weeks in this room. I used dynamite about three weeks ago when I turned to shoot coal, and also used dynamite to shoot through the horseback. I have at no time used black powder and dynamite in same shot in this room. John Dunn gave me no permission to use dynamite in this hole. I only had one shot last night."

### STATEMENT OF LONGERINI CLITO.

Longerini Clito, being duly sworn, says: "I work in room 11 in first west off main south in mine No. 48, Central. I was at work yesterday. I prepared three shots in this room, one on left rib, one in center, and one on right rib. The left shot was 5 feet 4 inches long; the center shot was 5 feet 6 inches long; right rib shot 6 feet 6 inches. I put three feet 6 inches black powder in left shot; 3 feet black powder in center shot; 2 feet powder in right shot I prepared for last night. The shot I prepared yesterday was a splitting shot. The shot that I prepared previous to this shot blew through, and I drilled a splitting shot yesterday. I had 2 feet of powder in this shot and about 3 feet in the shot on this rib the previous night."

### STATEMENT OF JOHN NAGORANTI.

John Nagoranti, being duly sworn, says: "I work in room 12. I had three shots yesterday, one on left side and two in front. I know that a shot blew through from No. 11 to my room on the night of the 21st. I had no shots drilled towards room 11 last night."

### STATEMENT OF MOSE KIMBER.

Mose Kimber, being duly sworn, says: "I work at mine No. 48, Central, on the north side of mine. I was at my home yesterday evening when this explosion occurred, and came right away to the mine and went below along with the inspectors when they arrived. I took part in searching the mine for shot firer, but was not with the party that found the body. I went with inspectors to-day in their investigation of the mine. I was not able to determine the cause of the explosion. My opinion is that the break-through shot between rooms 11 and 12 or the shot in face of room 15 caused the explosion. I had not been in this entry where the explosion occurred for three weeks prior to that time. I did not notice the condition of these entries at that time, and can't say whether it was dry and dusty or not. Albert Stimac complained to me last Sunday that he wanted the mine sprinkled, and told me that he would refuse to fire the



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shots if it was not sprinkled. I do not know whether the sprinkling was done or not. He continued to shoot the shots. They use a water box to do the sprinkling with."

#### STATEMENT OF ED. MANNING.

Ed Manning, being duly sworn, says: "I am employed as a miner in mine No. 48, Central, and work in the second east entry on north side of mine. I accompanied the inspectors in their examination of this mine to-day and examined the shots in rooms 11, 12 and 15 in first west. In my opinion the explosion came from the break-through shot in room 11 or from the shot in face of room 15. I carefully examined the shot in the face of room 15, and from its appearance the indications are that dynamite and black powder were both used in this shot, and I consider it dangerous and likely to cause an explosion. The last time I was in this entry was about three weeks ago, but I did not notice particularly the condition of the entry at that time. From all appearances the entries and rooms were very dry and dusty to-day after the explosion; some indications of fire and heat in the rooms and first west entries. The shot firers told me on Friday morning last that they were over at the mine to insist on Jno. Dunn having the mine sprinkled. I do not know whether the mine had been sprinkled or not.

#### EXPLOSION AT MINE No 7, SPENCER-NEWLAND COAL COMPANY.

An explosion occurred at mine No. 7 of the Spencer-Newland Coal Company on the evening of December 18 at about 6:30 p.m., which caused the death of the shot firers, Charles Campbell and George Spoonhour. Deputy Inspectors Halliday and Dwyer hastened to the mine, accompanied by K. H. Chisholm of the government Bureau of Mines, and assisted in the search for the shot firers. The bodies were found at about eight o'clock. Campbell was found on the back west entry and George Spoonhour was found 34 feet inside of this point on the back west entry. Messrs. Halliday and Fern returned to the mine the following day and made a careful examination of the mine. They found evidence of a very violent explosion. The overcast, which is located about 200 feet from the bottom of the shaft, was damaged by the force of the explosion. The doors at the mouth of second, fourth and sixth north entries were blown off and driven inward. A door on the main entry at fourth north was blown off and blown about fifty feet inward. Practically all stoppings inside of the second north on main west were blown out towards the back west entry. The door on the seventh north and south entry was also driven inward with considerable force. A curtain that had been hanging between the eighth south straight and back entries was burned off and the back west entry from this point inward showed plain evidence of considerable disturbance and fire. Powder kegs and debris were scattered along the entry. In the room next to the face of this back west entry we found two shots had been fired. The shot on the right rib had been drilled 7 feet and the one on the left was drilled 6 feet. These two shots were about 12 feet wide at the back of the holes, and neither shot had done good work. The left-hand shot just gouged out a crack to a horseback that ran parallel to the hole and the right-hand shot barely cracked the coal it was intended to shoot. There was evidence of extreme force on the main west entry from the eighth south to the face of the entry. In the last room turned off the main west entry two shots had been fired, one on each rib. The right-hand shot was drilled 3½ feet on the solid, and the left-hand shot about 2½ feet on the solid. Neither shot had moved a particle of the coal they were intended to shoot. In fact, these shots had every appearance of gunning or windy



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shots, and the roof on the entry at the mouth of this room had the whitish appearance of exploded powder. In the second room outside of the eighth south on back southwest we found a hole that had been drilled through a horseback that was 4 feet 10 inches on the solid. The shot appeared to have been shot with black powder and failed to do anything that it was intended to do. The evidence of fire disturbance and force were very plain in the main west back southwest and back northwest from a short distance inside of the seventh south up close to the face of the workings, and the dust and debris was scattered all over this area.

An inquest was held and the verdict reached was as follows: "Charles Campbell and George Spoonhour met death in an explosion at mine No. 7 of the Spencer-Newland Coal Company, on Friday, December 18, 1914. The cause of the explosion is unknown."

### EXPLOSION AT MINE No. 18, WESTERN COAL AND MINING COMPANY.

An explosion occurred at mine No. 18 of the Western Coal and Mining Company on the evening of December 23, 1914, which caused the death of Wm. Thomas Franklin, shot firer.

Inspectors Keegan, Fern and Halliday, accompanied by K. H. Chisholm of the government Bureau of Mines, hastened to the mine and assisted in the search for the missing shot firer. His body was found about eight p. m. in the fourth north straight entry on the east side of mine, at a point 79 feet north of main east entry. The body was badly burned. We returned to the mine the following day and made a careful examination of the east side of the mine. Following are the notes of conditions as we then found them:

The investigating party, consisting of Inspectors Halliday, Fern and Keegan, K. H. Chisholm of the government Bureau of Mines, Superintendent Roeser, Mine Foreman Martin, and the members of the pit committee, traveled from the bottom towards east. The loaded cars on bottom were heavily coated with dust. Door on mouth of first north uninjured; door on mouth of back northwest air course leading to overcast blown out into first north entry. Another door on first north entry, stationed about 180 feet from main east, was blown off and driven inward 20 feet; door on mouth of first south blown off and driven inward about 40 feet, and door smashed to pieces. Practically all stoppings inside of overcast on both sides of main east were blown out, including large permanent stopping in mouth of second south. The curtains on second and third north partly blown off. Found part of keg of powder on main east at third north and another part of a keg with loose powder scattered on roadway of main east at point opposite third south. Battered powder kegs and other debris and dust scattered along on this main east entry from the first to the fourth cross-entries; coking and plain evidence of extreme heat on tool boxes and coal ribs in fourth north. Keg of powder at mouth of back entry to fourth about 20 feet from point where Franklin's body was found. No shots fired in fourth north straight or back entries or rooms of these entries. Considerable evidence of fire along ribs of smoke room on north side of main east. Three shots fired in main east. One shot on left rib had been drilled 8 feet 5 inches, and 4 feet 4 inches of the back of the shot was standing solid; the other 4 feet 1 inch, or heel of shot, had been blown clear out. We were unable to learn whether this shot had been fired on the night of the explosion. However, it had every appearance of being a bad shot. Found a shot in fourth south back entry that was drilled 4½ feet on solid; evidently had been shot with dynamite. Horseback shot in fourth south straight entry drilled 3 feet 7 inches in solid, dynamite shot. Examined third south straight and back entries, and the rooms off these entries; found evidence of extreme heat and disturbance in both of these entries, and in





some of the rooms also. In fact, there was more evidence of fire and disturbance in the third south entries than at any other point within the area covered by the explosion. Yet the fact that the body of the shot firer was found in the fourth north, and that the shots in the fourth south, main east, the back northeast and back northwest and the crosscuts off the main east entry, eight or ten in all, had been fired by him, would indicate that the explosion originated between the fourth south and main east entries and caught him before he started to fire the shots in the fourth north. It is barely possible that some shot in the third south hung fire and that the explosion started from that point, but in our examination of the shots in the third south entries and rooms we did not find any abnormal shots that had been fired there.

A coroner's inquest was held on Monday, December 28, and the jury returned the following verdict and recommendation:

"Franklin's death was caused by burns received in an explosion caused by a windy shot. The evidence introduced showed that every legal precaution had been taken in the operation of the mine to prevent fatalities under the present method and had failed. In our opinion a law should be made requiring all shots to be fired in mines by some mechanical device, and we make this our recommendation."

### EXPLOSION AT MINE No. 47, CENTRAL COAL AND COKE COMPANY.

I visited mine No. 47 of the Central Coal and Coke Company on February 15, 1915, and examined the mine with regard to locating the cause of the explosion which occurred at this mine on the evening of February 12, 1915, in which the shot firers Henry Hecksher and William Titter received injuries which afterward resulted in their death. Hecksher died from his injuries at 12:30 p. m. Saturday, February 13, 1915, and Titter died at about 6:10 p. m. Sunday, February 14, 1915. Our first information regarding the accident was that two shot firers had been injured by a windy shot, but that they had come out of the mine and were thought not to be seriously injured. I was accompanied on my examination of the mine by Wm. Fleming of the government Bureau of Mines, Superintendents Wm. Harkes and D. L. Dunn, Mining Engineer H. J. Pierce, and the secretary of local union of this mine, William Glennon. We proceeded from bottom along main south entry to a point where the first west turns off. We found the roadway dry and dusty and the insulation on telephone wires scorched along this main south entry, but on account of work of cleaning up done by a small force of men on the day following the explosion we were unable to note any other evidences of disturbance of the explosion along this entry. We went into first west entry. At a point on first west about 40 feet from main south we found an exploded powder keg. We then examined the rooms in this entry. In room 1 two shots had been fired. The left shot could have thrown considerable flame, as all the coal from the shot was swept right out. There was evidence of considerable heat and coking on props in this room. One shot fired on left rib in room 2; no evidence of disturbance or heat in this room, except slight coking on props outside of crosscut leading to room 1. Two shots fired in room 3; no evidence of disturbance here. No shots fired in rooms 4 and 5, and no evidence of disturbance in either of these rooms. Two shots fired in room 6; no evidence of unusual conditions in this room. Two shots fired in room 7; the shot on right side, although apparently well balanced, had thrown heel back with considerable force; no heated condition in the room. We then went along south entry to second west. Found slight evidence of heat on crossbars on main south. At point 80 feet south of first west found one pit lamp and another lamp at a point 143 feet south of first west. It is believed these lamps belonged to the shot firers. The explosion did prac-



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tically no damage to the mine. None of the stoppings were blown out except one in first south. This concluded our examination of the mine.

I again visited the mine on February 17, 1915, and took the following sworn statements from a number of witnesses regarding the explosion:

STATEMENT OF ROSS THOMAS.

- Q. State your name. A. Ross Thomas.
- Q. What is your occupation, Mr. Thomas? A. Mine foreman.
- Q. Where were you at the time of the accident which resulted in the death of Henry Hecksher and William Titter? A. In this bathhouse.
- Q. How did you learn that there had been an accident? A. The fireman came in here and told me.
- Q. What did he tell you, Mr. Thomas? A. He told me that the mine had blown up.
- Q. What did you do toward looking into the accident when the fireman notified you? A. I went down the mine.
- Q. What did you find there? A. I found both shot firers on the bottom.
- Q. You spoke to them did you? A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Were they able to walk? A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Did they come right out of the mine with you? A. Yes sir.
- Q. What did you do toward taking care of the men when they came out? A. I could not do anything with Hecksher for awhile.
- Q. For what reason? A. He would not let us.
- Q. Explain yourself more fully, Mr. Thomas. A. We brought him down here to the washhouse and he would not let anybody touch him. I asked him to lay down and he said "No."
- Q. Did you notice at that time the nature of the injuries of either one of the shot firers? A. I could see that Hecksher was burnt some.
- Q. Did you notice if either or both of them were suffering at that time? A. Hecksher was suffering and Titter said he was all right.
- Q. How soon after the men came out of the mine were they taken home? A. Between half past six and seven.
- Q. The explosion happened at what time? A. About fifteen to five.
- Q. In your judgment, how long was it after the explosion took place before the shot firers got to the bottom? A. It could have been but a few minutes.
- Q. Did you have blankets and other material here when the men were brought out? A. We had no blankets, but the men brought the stretcher out, and there were no blankets there.
- Q. Did you get blankets before taking the men to their homes? A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Did either of the injured parties make any statement to you as to the cause of the accident? A. I did not get any statements from Hecksher, but Titter told me it came out of the first west off main south.
- Q. Did he make any statement to you as to where he was at the time the explosion occurred? A. Just inside the first west on main south.
- Q. When did you first enter the mine and examine condition in first west and main south entries after the accident? A. The following morning.
- Q. You might state the condition in which you found the roadways along the main south and first west at that time. A. I found them all covered with dirt.
- Q. Were they dusty? A. Yes.
- Q. Did you find any evidence of fire? A. Some.
- Q. At what point or points? A. On the back-entry curtain on first west.
- Q. Did you find any evidence of fire along the main south on the ribs or timbers? A. The telephone wires showed evidence of heat where they had been burnt.





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Q. What was the condition of the roadway in the first west and main south prior to the accident as to its being dry and dusty? A. Dry.

Q. Was there an accumulation of dust on the roadways in either of those entries? A. Some.

Q. Upon your examination of the mine the following morning and your subsequent examination of the mine on Monday, were you able to determine where this explosion originated? A. I have a judgment.

Q. What is your judgment? A. In room 1.

Q. What causes you to conclude that this is where the explosion started from? A. There was coke on the props in that place.

Q. Is there anything else that would lead you to believe that room 1 in first west was the place where the explosion started from? A. There was a shot there that had kicked back, and there was a powder keg on the entry just inside the switch that had exploded.

Q. Did that exploded powder, in your judgment, add to the extent or help to create the explosion? A. Yes, it would add to the extent of it.

Q. Had you at any time immediately prior to this accident sprinkled the roadways of main south and first and second west entries. A. No, sir.

Q. Do you mean that you have not at any time sprinkled the roadways? A. No, we never sprinkle.

Q. Is there anything further that you can tell that would be of any benefit toward helping us to arrive at the cause of this accident that we may have overlooked? A. I believe not.

Q. That is all, Mr. Thomas.

#### STATEMENT OF N. S. SCOTT.

Q. State your name. A. N. S. Scott.

Q. What is your occupation? A. Digging coal.

Q. Where are you employed? A. At mine No. 47 of the Central Coal and Coke Company.

Q. In what part of the mine do you work? A. I work in the third north, which is the entry known on the map as the first west.

Q. Work in an entry or room, Mr. Scott? A. In a room.

Q. What room? A. I work in room 1.

Q. Were you at work on February 12, 1915, in this room? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many shots did you prepare that day? A. Two.

Q. Where were they located in the room? A. One on the right and the other on left of face of room.

Q. How deep was the hole on the left side of the room drilled? A. Six feet.

Q. And the shot on the right side? A. Same distance, six feet.

Q. How much powder did you put in those shots? A. Three feet of black powder in each shot.

Q. How long have you worked in that room, Mr. Scott? A. About two months.

Q. Is that powder that you used in those shots on February 12 the average charge of powder used in that class of shots by you? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the condition of your room as to its being wet or dry? A. Dry.

Q. When did you hear of this accident that caused the death of Mr. Hecksher and Mr. Titter? A. About six o'clock.

Q. When did you first enter the room since the accident? A. This morning.

Q. What was the condition in which you found your room this morning? A. I found my room just like I left it.

Q. Was there no evidence of fire in the room? A. I could not tell of any; the props were standing just like I left them.

Q. Did you examine those props and see any evidence of coking or fire on them? A. No, sir; I could not see anything.

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Q. There may have been coking on those props that you could not find, Mr. Scott. A. There might have been.

Q. That is all, Mr. Scott.

### STATEMENT OF JOHN HAY.

Q. State your name. A. John Hay.

Q. Your occupation, John? A. Air man in mine No. 47 of the Central Coal and Coke Company.

Q. When did you first learn of this accident? A. The next morning.

Q. You might state, in your own way and as briefly as possible, the condition of the mine as you found it. A. Some dirt settled along the rails and a little dust settled up to the second west.

Q. Did you find any evidence of fire along the roadway? A. Yes, sir; along the phone wires it showed that there had been fire, and on the props from the first room in first west on the entry to the point where the back entry turns off this entry.

Q. Was there any other evidence of fire that you found that morning? A. On the curtain on the back entry switch it showed a little scorch.

Q. Did you make an examination of any other part of the mine on that day? A. Yes, sir. I went into the first, second and third room off first west.

Q. What did you find there, Mr. Hay? A. I could not find anything, but it seemed that it settled in dust and in the first room it seemed that everything was white in it.

Q. Did you find any coking on the props in the first room? A. There was not a great deal of coking, but lots of dust had been dashed against the props.

Q. What else, if anything, did you find on your examination? A. I found evidence of an exploded powder keg.

Q. Where was this keg? A. It was lying at the switch of the first room.

Q. Was it plainly evident that powder had exploded in the keg? A. In my judgment it was.

Q. Was there any one in the mine with you that morning? A. Ross Thomas and Joe Davis.

Q. From your examination of the mine the morning following the explosion, were you able to determine where the explosion originated? A. In my opinion it originated in room 1 off first west.

Q. What causes you to form this opinion? A. All the coal in the room was white and in the other rooms it was black, and it showed that it had swept out of that room.

Q. Was there any evidence of unusual disturbance in any of the other rooms and entries in that vicinity? A. All that I seen was that the crosscut between the second and third room, which was narrow, had been swept clean, evidently by the force of the explosion.

Q. Did you find any other evidences that an explosion had occurred in the mine other than those that you have stated? A. No, I don't believe that I did.

Q. Did you see either of the injured parties before their death, either Mr. Hecksher or Mr. Titter? A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know of anything further that would help or benefit us in arriving at what caused this explosion? A. No, I don't believe I can.

Q. That is all, Mr. Hay.

### STATEMENT OF ALBERT BEE.

Q. State your name. A. Albert Bee.

Q. What is your occupation, Mr. Bee? A. Cager in mine No. 47, Central Coal and Coke Company.

Q. Were you at work on February 12, 1915? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where were you at the time this explosion occurred at this mine No. 47, Central, on the evening of February 12, 1915? A. I don't know. I did not hear anything of it until the following morning.





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Q. When did you first enter the mine after the explosion, Mr. Bee?  
A. The next morning.

Q. What did you do the following day? A. We pulled rails up until noon on the east side, and after dinner they brought us on the west to clean roads.

Q. In what part of the mine? A. In the straight south.

Q. What was the condition of that roadway in the straight south where you were cleaning the roads on that day? A. Well, there was dust on the roads.

Q. Was there a large accumulation of dust? A. No.

Q. Did you see if it was very dry? A. It was very dry where we worked.

Q. Did you find any evidence of unusual disturbance of heat and fire where you worked that day? A. No. Well, I noticed that the telephone wires were scorched. I did not pay any attention only to the wires.

Q. Did you make any examination of the mine on that day? A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know of anything further in regard to this accident that would help us to arrive at the cause of this accident? A. No; I do not know anything further, except hearsay.

Q. That is all, Mr. Bee.

#### STATEMENT OF WATKIN WILLIAMS.

Watkin Williams, being duly sworn, says: "I have heard the statement made by Albert Bee and can corroborate the same as being correct."

#### STATEMENT OF LOUIS UTZ.

Louis Utz, being duly sworn says: "I am employed as a sinker at Mine No. 49 of the Central Coal and Coke Company, and sat up with Henry Hecksher all night, after he was brought home from No. 47. I examined Mr. Hecksher's condition pretty closely, and can say that he was burned severely on the head, arms, breast and legs, and the burns on both legs seemed to be even worse than the burns on the rest of his body. He was unconscious when brought to his home between six and seven o'clock on the evening of February 12, 1915, and did not thoroughly regain consciousness until about three o'clock in the morning. Then he became quite rational and knew all of the family and friends that were around, and told me of the explosion. He stated to me that he had lit the shots in rooms 1, 2 and 3 in what is commonly known as the third north, which is the first west off main south as shown by the map of the mine. He, Hecksher, told me that he was enveloped in the flame that came from some of the shots in those three places, and that he was sitting out on the entry at the time the explosion came, and that he was completely enveloped in flame as it passed over him, and that he lay there until the flame came back over him again and then jumped up and ran to the bottom as fast as he could in the dark. He said that his partner, Titter, was in towards the second west at the time of the explosion. Doctor Sturn injected some medicine in Mr. Hecksher's arm about nine o'clock on the morning of February 13 to relieve the pain, and advised that he be taken to the hospital. The ambulance came and we took Mr. Hecksher in it, but I believe he died in the ambulance between Frontenac and the hospital at about 12:30."

#### EXPLOSION AT MINE NO. 18, WESTERN COAL AND MINING COMPANY.

An explosion occurred at mine No. 18 of the Western Coal and Mining Company on the evening of February 26, 1915. Deputy Inspector Halliday and I arrived at the mine about 7:45 p. m. and found that one shot firer had come out uninjured, and the other, Wm. Metcalf, had just been brought out of the mine a short time before we arrived. His burns were being dressed by Doctor Gibson. He was unconscious and



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laboring hard for breath, and was taken to the hospital without having regained consciousness. We returned to the mine the following morning, and accompanied by W. W. Fleming of the government Bureau of Mines, Superintendent Phil Roeser, Mine Foreman Martin, and three members of the mine committee, made an examination of the mine.

Proceeded from bottom to first north. Found but slight evidence of disturbance along the roadway in this entry until we reached a point close to second west off first north. At the mouth of this second west entry we found evidence of coking on timbers; also some coking on front end of empty car standing on entry close to face. We were able to get a gas cap 90 feet from face of second west; one-half inch gas cap 1 foot from roof on entry at open crosscut; three-fourths inch gas cap 2 feet from roof 20 feet inside open crosscut, and gas 2 feet thick from this point all the way to face of entry. I measured 74 feet from last open crosscut to face of entry. Two shots had been fired in entry, one in horseback in face and one in brushing. The shots in the rooms off this entry had not been fired. The shots in back entry and rooms off same had all been fired. No indications of disturbance or fire in back entry.

Metcalf was found by the rescue party at about 7:15 p. m., lying on first north roadway at a point 256 feet south of the second west entry, and the west entry is driven in about 220 feet; therefore, the distance from the last shot he had fired to where he was found was approximately 470 feet. There were two kegs of powder and broken powder boxes strewn on north entry between the point where Metcalf was found and the second west entry. The only other evidence of disturbance found was the debris and broken tool boxes in first north inside of second west. All appearances indicated that Metcalf had ignited the gas in the second west off first north when he lit the brushing pot, and thereby caused the explosion that followed. From the fact that he was found on first north entry about 470 feet from the last shot fired, I would judge that he traveled this distance after the explosion and then was overcome and fell down at the spot where he was found. He died the following day as a result of the injuries he received. I ordered all work in second west entry stopped until a crosscut was made from the back entry and until all standing gas had been removed from the entry. I then took the following sworn statements of witnesses:

### STATEMENT OF JOHN KECK.

John Keck, being duly sworn says: "I am employed as a miner at mine No. 18, Western Coal and Mining Company, and work in the stub entry off the first south on the east side of mine. At about 6:45 p. m. Friday, February 26, I was in Franklin and heard No. 18 whistle blow four whistles, twice. I knew from that that there was trouble at the mine, and I ran right over to the mine. I learned that there had been an explosion and that one of the shot firers was still in the mine. A cage load of men went down into the mine with me, and we proceeded to search for the missing shot firer. We found him lying in the first north at a point three rooms inside the old first north back entry. He was lying on his face, breathing very hard, and was unconscious. We got him out as fast as possible and the doctor came and dressed him, and then he was taken to the hospital, but he had not regained consciousness when taken from here. I have no knowledge regarding the condition of the first north or second west entries prior to the accident. I examined the mine this morning along with the inspectors. In my opinion the explosion was caused by the gas in the second west off first north being in some way ignited. There was gas in this entry back 90 feet from the face this morning. The only evidences of fire or disturbance that I found in the mine was on the timbers at the mouth of the second west and the broken tool boxes in first north, both inside and outside of second west. Every indication seemed to point to the ignition of gas in the face of the second west, and I believe that is what caused the ex-