

NEW AND ABANDONED MINES.

Three mines, in local trade only, have been opened and four mines abandoned or not operated during the year.

CHANGE IN NAMES.

The George Luman mine, near Moro, Madison County, has been sold to George Kabel, who is operating it under the name of Kabel mine.

The Klondyke mine, near Prairietown, Madison County, has been purchased by Hardin and Stiegmeier. The name of the mine remains unchanged.

The St. Louis and Illinois Coal Company's mine at Edwardsville is now being operated by W. S. Walker and known as the Henrietta mine.

MINE FIRES.

On the night of February 5th, the engine house, generator room, and boiler room were burned down at the mine of the North Breese Coal and Mining Company, Breese, Clinton County. At the present time it is completely repaired. The wooden flooring of the engine house, except about the engines, is replaced by granitoid.

I am pleased to report the erection and putting in use of an underground hospital at the Donk Bros. Coal and Coke Company's No. 1 mine. It is built of concrete throughout, is 7 feet high by 13x14 feet. It is steam-heated and has hot and cold water. The temperature is kept at 90°. It is furnished with an operating table, the first aid appliances, with necessary blankets, kept in cupboard conveniently arranged, and is equipped with electric lights. The two stretchers are also kept here. In the two cases in which it has been tested it has fully met the expectations of its promoters. I believe this is the first underground hospital in the State. Mr. Wilson and the Donk Bros. Coal and Coke Company certainly deserve great credit for being the forerunners in improving mining conditions in this particular regard.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Donk Bros. Coal and Coke Company has spent about \$15,000.00 in improving the fifth east entry of the No. 2 mine and have installed a 1,500 H. P. Cochran water heater.

At the No. 3 mine a 5 foot Stine Booster fan, operated by electricity, has been installed and is doing good work. Before this fan was put in the air was very poor.

The City Coal Company of Edwardsville, has made a decided improvement in the main air course of its mine, which should greatly improve the ventilation. The company has retimbered the escape shaft, and partly retimbered the hoisting shaft, and repaired the boilers. This mine was a year ago considered in poor condition, but is now operated by Herzogg-Gears & Co., and it must be said to their credit that they have improved the condition of the mine to no small degree.

Lumaghi Coal Company at the No. 2 mine, at Collinsville, is enlarging the main air course to a minimum of at least 50 square feet, in order to increase the ventilation. Six electric coal mining machines, one Sullivan continuous cutter and five Jeffreys' continuous cutters, have been put in.

Madison Coal Corporation has made extensive improvements at No. 2 and No. 4 mines. At No. 4 mine a sump lined throughout with concrete, to contain three months' water, has been made, air courses enlarged, haulage roads improved and refuge places made larger.

At the No. 2 mine a sump to contain three months water, lined throughout with concrete, has been made, air courses enlarged, haulage roads improved, and installed a Jeffreys' Booster fan, 3 feet 6 inches by 2 feet 3 inches double inlet, with noiseless chain drive operated by a 50 horse power motor. The

fan is guaranteed to produce 65,000 cubic feet of air against a 2½ inch water gauge. The installation of this fan has made a fine improvement in the ventilation of that part of the mine.

Seven thousand dollars has been spent in putting up new buildings and a retaining wall.

This company has furnished for No. 2 and No. 4 mine, a complete set of mine rescue apparatus for each mine, including helmets, oxygen tanks, pulmotors, etc. It is to be hoped that other companies will follow this example, so that in the event they should be wanted, when minutes will be precious, they will be ready for use, and save the time of waiting for the mine rescue party with their equipment from the State rescue stations.

There is a mine rescue and first aid team, composed of the employees of the Madison Coal Corporation, at Glen Carbon. It is fine to see this spirit of coöperation among the operators and employees. The spirit which this company has shown in bringing mines No. 2 and No. 4 to a first-class condition is commendable.

The Breese-Trenton Mining Company, at the East mine, has put in a complete new head gearing and a water heater for the boilers.

At the Buxton mine, fine and extensive improvements underground have been made. The bottom is in fine shape. The low timbers taken out, the height increased about 3 feet, securing the roof by steel eye beams, resting on steel eye props, these in turn resting on a concrete foundation. Haulage roads on both sides have been cleaned. The twenty pound rails of the main haulage roads on one side of the shaft have been replaced by thirty pound rails, preparatory to putting in a motor.

The Consolidated Coal Company has put in at the West mine, Breese, a new stairway in the escapement shaft.

Marion County Coal Company has erected a new brick smoke stack with base 22 feet, height 151 feet, and top 6 feet; two new boilers, O'Brien make, 72 inches by 18 feet has been installed.

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF MINES.

Lumaghi Coal Company has closed No. 3 mine at Collinsville, for the purpose of making repairs, such as erecting a new fan which is capable of producing twice the quantity of air produced by the present one; cleaning out air courses, and making preparations to have the present underground workings extended through the old and abandoned workings of a mine known as the Heinz Bluff mine. A new boiler has also been installed.

The Mt. Olive & Staunton Coal Company temporarily closed mine No. 1, for the purpose of improving and strengthening the pit tower, retimbering a part of the hoisting shaft, repairing the dynamo, putting in a new track scale, and the building of a new smoke stack.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.

July 11, 1911, Ernest Cole, driver, aged 26 years, married, employed at the Buxton mine of the Breese-Trenton Mining Company, Breese, Clinton County, was killed by pit cars. He leaves a widow and one child.

July 20, 1911, Frank Campbell, laborer, aged 56 years, married, was caught between the cage and timber and killed. Deceased was employed in the Northern Coal and Supply Co.'s mine, Sorento, Bond County. He leaves a widow and three children.

August 28, 1911, Steve Eskochin, driver, aged 18 years, single, was killed by pit cars in the Mt. Olive and Staunton Coal Company's mine No. 2, Staunton, Madison County.

September 14, 1911, Bert Rico, machine helper, aged 28 years, single, employed at New Staunton Coal Company's mine, Livingston, Madison County, was killed by falling coal.

September 20, 1911, John Mygatt, miner, aged 48 years, married, was killed by falling coal in No. 9 mine of Southern Coal and Mining Co., New Baden, Clinton County. He leaves a widow and two children.