

in the Fletcher skip, the coal being dumped at the bottom of the shaft into a large hopper. The pit cars hold three tons of coal. The bottom is laid out on the plan of the three-entry system to the second pair of cross entries. The boiler, engine and blacksmith buildings are built of brick. The tippie is a wood structure with shaker screens. This mine is laid out to handle a very large tonnage.

#### IMPROVEMENTS IN MINES.

The Moffat Coal Company, Sparta, Randolph county, has installed a Sullivan compressor and ten Sullivan machines, the company believing that it will attain better results in the quality of coal at its mine.

The Odin Coal Company, Odin, Marion county, has installed a high speed fan, run by a small generator at the face of the workings. The fan is placed one and one-half miles from the bottom of the shaft, running at a speed of 250 revolutions a minute, producing 40,000 cubic feet of air. This relieves all pressure on stoppings. Before this fan was installed 5,000 cubic feet of air was all that could be forced to the face of the workings.

#### ABANDONED MINES.

The Great Central Coal Company, Duquoin, Perry county, has abandoned its mine, known as the old Mifflin mine, four miles west of Duquoin. The machinery has not been removed and operations may be resumed some time.

The Greenwood Davis Coal Company, Duquoin, abandoned its mine March 16, 1907. The expense of handling the water and the haulage became so great that the mine was not on a paying basis. Water had to be pumped and the coal hauled up a 4 per cent grade.

April 1, 1907, the slope known as the Old Hallidayboro slope was abandoned.

#### PROSPECTIVE MINES.

**The Dering Coal Company will open a new mine, to be known as No. 18, two and one-half miles northeast of West Frankfort, Franklin county.**

The Benton Coal Company will open a new mine, to be designated as No. 2, one mile southeast of Benton.

The Big Muddy and Carterville Coal Company will have a new mine, to be known as No. 2, at Royalton.

The Marion County Coal Company will have a new mine, two and one-half miles northwest of Centralia.

The White Ash Coal Company is opening a new mine, four miles south of Duquoin.

The following is a detailed statement of the fatal accidents occurring in this district during the year ended June 30, 1907:

August 2, 1906, Matt Watheau, shot firer, age 35 years, married, was killed by a shot blowing through a pillar, while working in the Dering Coal Company's mine at West Frankfort. He leaves a widow and three children.

September 19, 1906, Ezra Young, miner, age 60 years, married, was killed by falling clod in the Royal Coal and Coke Company's mine at Sparta. He leaves a widow.

October 11, 1906, John A. Hummel, miner, aged 33 years, married, was killed instantly at the face of his room by falling slate. He was drawing a pillar in the Paradise Coal Company's mine at Duquoin. He leaves a widow and two children.

October 11, 1906, Gus Lee, miner, aged 20 years, single, was killed instantly by falling slate. Lee and Hummel were working together drawing a pillar of a room in the Paradise Coal Company's mine, Duquoin, Ill.

December 11, 1906, Herman Habich, miner, aged 34 years, was killed instantly by falling rock and slate, the mass weighing about 2,000 pounds. He was employed in the Breese Trenton Mining Company's mine, Breese. He leaves a widow and two children.