

There are four boilers, each 42 inches by 22 feet. The screens are $\frac{5}{8}$ inch in the mesh by 8 feet long. This is one of the largest mines in Sangamon county.

Underground Manager, Joseph Haun; Manager, No. 2, Thos. Jones.

WEST END MINE.

This shaft is located adjoining the limits of the corporation of the city of Springfield, on the west side, and on the line of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad. The shaft is 150 feet deep, the coal having an average thickness of $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The mine is worked on the double-entry plan. The mine is ventilated by a furnace having 8 feet of grate bars. The escapement shaft is 8x16, with ladders from top to bottom. The air is divided into four splits. There are 125 miners employed daily during the year. The coal is hoisted by a single engine, 16x30, geared 3 to 1. There are 2 boilers, each 42 inches by 22 feet. The works are getting too far from the shaft to use mule power economically. The tail rope or endless rope system ought to be used for hauling that distance.

Manager, Robt. Green.

PLEASANT PLAINS COAL AND MINING COMPANY.

This shaft is located on the east side of the village of Pleasant Plains, on the line of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad. The shaft is 126 feet deep, the coal averaging $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness. The mine is worked by pillar and room and single-entry. The company has not worked over 12 miners during the present year. There is an escapement shaft. This mine has been very badly managed; the ventilation is by furnace, but half of the time it is not kept burning. The mine has been ruined by having the workings full of black-damp. The shaft has recently changed hands; the new company is putting things into a better shape. The coal is hoisted by a single engine 14x30. One boiler is used for getting up steam, 48 inches by 20 feet.

Manager, J. L. Gause.

DECATUR COAL COMPANY. *Macon*

This shaft is located within the corporate limits of the city of Decatur, on the line of the Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific Railroad, and the Indianapolis, Bloomington and Western Railroad. The shaft is 612 feet deep, the coal averaging 4 feet 4 inches thick. The coal is worked by the long-wall system. The company employs on an average 130 miners. The mine is ventilated by a 7-foot fan. Small quantities of fire-damp are found in the breaks next to the face of the workings. This is a very fine seam of coal for long-wall working, having a good slate roof and fire clay bottom. Coal is shipped on both roads. The coal is hoisted by twin engines, on first motion; engines, 16x24; four boilers are used to get up steam, each 48 inches by 18 feet. The hoisting drum is 8 feet in diameter; ropes $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter. The company is at present sinking another hoisting shaft, near the depot of the Illinois Midland Railroad and at the intersection of the Illinois Central, the new shaft to be used as an escapement shaft.

Manager, Mark Moran.