The Crescent Coal Co. has installed six Jeffrey shortwall mining machines and one General Electric motor generator set consisting of one 440-volt synchronous alternating current 225 horsepower motor direct connection to 150-kw. generator. This unit is located underground near the working face and is used to furnish power for the mining machines. The electric current is transmitted through a drill hole from a transformer station on the surface. The generator is enclosed in a 12 feet by 16 feet reinforced concrete room; provision being made for ventilation by small exhaust fan. The company has also moved a 150-kw. motor generator set, formerly located on the surface, to a point underground midway between the tipple and coal face. This unit is housed similar to the one above mentioned and is used to furnish power for haulage purposes. The main haulage entry has been permanently improved by removing wooden timbers and replacing them with steel beams supported on concrete walls. A number of surface improvements have been made during the year, among which are the installation of one Jeffrey single roll crusher, capacity 60 tons per hour, and a rescreening plant with a capacity of 25 tons per hour.

Groveland Coal Mining Co. has made many extensive improvements on its large undeveloped tracts of coal land during the past year. The work of the greatest importance is that connected with their new No. 2 mine, which is located about five miles southeast of Peoria and two miles east of Hilliards switch on the P. & P. U. Ry.

The shaft at the new mine which is 165 feet deep has a finished inside dimension of 10 feet by 17 feet. The top 6 feet has a solid concrete lining 2 inches thick, the next 78 feet has a concrete lining 1 inch thick and the remaining 81 feet is timbered with 4-inch by 10-inch yellow pine on the sides and 6-inch by 10-inch yellow pine on the ends. This timber lining will be fire proofed by covering with triangular wire mesh and this covered with 1¼-inch of gunite. The temporary wood buttons which were used in sinking have been replaced with steel I-beams throughout the entire depth of the shaft.

The hoist house is of brick and steel construction and houses a most modern Nordberg Electric hoist which is operated by a 200 horsepower, 440-volt motor. The hoist is equipped with an automatic high speed and overwing safety brake which is operated automatically by two electrically controlled oil pumps either one of which will do the necessary work.

The shop and store room both are under the same roof in a frame building 30 feet by 75 feet. The former is equipped with an electrically driven power hammer, drill press, emery wheel, grind stone and hack saw.

The wash house is of concrete block construction 30 feet by 60 feet. It is heated by steam from automatically regulated heater which also furnishes water for the showers. The water pressure is obtained from a concrete storage cistern located on a hill. An electric pump supplies water to this cistern from a pond made by damming a nearby stream.

Minonk Coal Co. has made the following improvements:

A new boiler room 48 feet by 64 feet, height 20 feet, made of cement and brick, which is absolutely fire proof; one brick chimney 115 feet high, which is 20 feet higher than the tipple of the mine and it matters not which way the wind blows, no sparks from this chimney will light upon any frame building and cause a fire; four new boilers 72 inches by 18 feet with 70 4-inch tubes inserted, supposed to carry 150 pounds pressure. The company has also built a brick wash house 20 feet by 36 feet with cement floor and roof, made a reservoir 100 feet wide, 200 feet long and 15 feet deep for water supply, installed new pump at bottom of the mine for pumping of water from the bottom of air shaft and main shaft to the surface, put in new guides and new cages.

The Wolschlag Coal Company has installed 7 Goodwin mining machines, a new generator, 100 kw., and a new blacksmith shop, 20 feet by 30 feet, made of concrete blocks.

The Leitner Coal Company has installed one motor to take the place of cable haulage. This motor is a 6-ton motor of the Jeffrey type and propelled by city electric power, direct current.