

NEW MINES

Five mines have been opened during the year as follows: Christopher Coal Mining Company, Christopher, Franklin County; W. H. McLean, Equality, Gallatin County; Tanner, Barkus & Co., and Elders & Bixler, Carriers Mills, and Mag Hart, Equality, Saline County.

ABANDONED MINES

The following mines have not been in operation this year and are classed as abandoned mines:

Big Muddy-Carterville Mining Company, Royalton, Franklin Co.; Sisk & McLean, Equality, Reid & Brice, Saline Mines, and E. A. Anderson, Ridgeway, Gallatin County; Saline County Coal Company's No. 1, Ledford; Moore & McDonald, Carriers Mills, John Cogdill, L. G. Dunn and J. L. Dunn, Stonefort, Saline County.

CHANGE OF NAME

The names of the following mines have been changed: J. O. Baldwin to Dempsey & Walthen Bros.; J. E. Dempsey to W. R. Chinn; Harrisburg Southern to Big Creek Coal Co.; St. Louis Coal & Coke Co. to Galatia & Saline Coal Co.; T. S. Thompson to R. L. Clements; Hazel & Steele to Syers Bros.; Southard & Lynch to Macke Coal Co.; Yates & Reynolds to Yates & Land; Ollison & Edwards to James Edwards.

PROSPECTIVE MINES

The Chicago, Wilmington and Vermillion Coal Co. is sinking a new modern mine, which will be fire-proof throughout. The main shaft is down about 500 feet and they expect to strike coal within the next few feet, while the air shaft is down a little over 400 feet. This mine is located four miles northwest of West Frankfort on a branch of the C., B. & Q. R. R.

The Ohio Valley Mining Co. is sinking a new and up-to-date mine, which will also be constructed of fire-proof material. The main shaft is down now about 100 feet, the depth of the coal at this point is about 500 feet. This mine will be known as their mine No. 9, which is located two miles east of West Frankfort.

The third shaft in the district to be completed under the new law, requiring them to be constructed of fire-proof material, was sunk by the Christopher Coal Mining Co., near Christopher, Franklin County.

The recently completed shafts were sunk by a method which is of much present day interest. Instead of employing reciprocating drills mounted on tripods or shaft bars, the company adopted hand feed hammer drills of the Sullivan Class D.B. 19 pattern. These were equipped with 1¼-inch hexagonal hollow steel, sharpened with 6-point rose bits and operated by air at 80-pounds pressure by a single stage air compressor having a capacity of 130 cubic feet of free air per minute. Air was furnished these drills through a 3-inch pipe, which was later used for automatic air signals.

The main shaft is 13x31 feet in the clear and was commenced May 27, 1913, and reached the coal vein, 12 feet in thickness, on November 27, 1912, 593 feet from the surface. The air shaft, 12 feet by 24 feet, was started a few days later and reached the coal in practically the same length of time. The formation penetrated varied from soft shale to the hardest kind of limestone.

The shafts are curbed in the usual way, using 6x12 yellow pine timbers, and a solid concrete wall was used down to the depth of 41 feet and rests on 12-inch I beam horn-set.

Steel buntons were used in both shafts and the sides were lined between the concrete with fire-proof material.

The escapement shaft is built in the same way and is equipped with a main and material hoist, the cage being 10 feet 6 inches by 6 feet. All material will be lowered in this mine at this shaft. The steps are made of steel.