

SIXTH INSPECTION DISTRICT—1911.

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Counties—Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery.

JAMES TAYLOR, *Inspector*, Peoria.

Hon. Martin Bolt, Chief Clerk, State Mining Board, Springfield:

SIR—In compliance with section 5 of an Act of the General Assembly of Illinois, I have the honor of submitting the sixth annual report of the coal mines in the sixth inspection district as now formed, comprising the counties of Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin and Montgomery.

The following items are shown in the report:

Number of counties producing coal.....	5
Number of shipping mines.....	23
Number of local mines.....	7
Total number of mines.....	30
Number of miners.....	1,652
Others employed under ground, men.....	4,828
Boys under ground.....	71
Number employed above ground.....	58
Total number of employes.....	7,109
Total tons of coal produced.....	6,477,245
Aggregate value of total product.....	\$5,955,465
Tons shipped.....	6,054,733
Tons supplied to locomotives.....	32,802
Tons sold to local trade.....	116,087
Tons used at the mine.....	273,623
Number of fatal accidents.....	20
Number of non-fatal accidents.....	46
Number of employes to each fatal accident.....	355.45
Number of employes to each non-fatal accident.....	154.5
Tons of coal produced to each fatal accident.....	323,862
Tons of coal produced to each non-fatal accident.....	140,810
Ratio of fatal accidents per 1,000 persons employed.....	2.8
Tons of coal mined by hand.....	4,708,900
Tons of coal mined by machines.....	4,768,345
Number of machines in use.....	804
Number of kegs of powder used in blasting coal.....	95,841
Number used for other purposes.....	121
Number of motors in use.....	37

Counties.	Total Product of All grades of Coal—Tons.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1910.	1911.		
Calhoun.....	4,620	1,775		2,845
Greene.....	4,660	6,428	1,768	
Jersey.....	1,600	578		1,022
Macoupin.....	4,040,425	4,279,386	238,961	
Montgomery.....	1,811,203	2,189,078	377,875	
Total.....	5,862,508	6,477,245	618,604	3,867
Net increase.....			614,737	

MINES ABANDONED.

The following shipping mines have been worked out and abandoned during the year: The Consolidated Coal Company's mines Nos. 6 and 7, located at Staunton, Macoupin county; Lukins & Andrews' South mine, located at Virden, Macoupin county, and The Consolidated Coal Company's mine, located at Gillespie, Macoupin county.

The following local mines have also been abandoned during the year: The Raymond Coal Company's mine, Raymond, Montgomery county, the P. J. Tucker mine, located at Whitehall, Greene county, and G. B. Loper's mine at Chesterfield, Macoupin county.

FIRE DESTROYS WASHER.

As the result of a fire of mysterious origin, a \$70,000 coal washer owned by the Shoal Creek Coal Mining Company, Panama, was destroyed early the morning of April 11, 1911. The washer was a short distance from the hoisting shaft, and it contained 1,800 tons of washed coal. This, together with a carload which was under the chute, was totally consumed. The fire fighting apparatus at the mine was the means of saving the buildings around the shaft. About a month ago the storehouse owned by this company was totally destroyed by fire. The loss on both structures was fully covered by insurance.

EXPLOSION AT THE SHOAL CREEK COAL COMPANY'S MINE, PANAMA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, NOVEMBER 11, 1910.

Six men killed, eleven injured by afterdamp, and the lives of 386 others imperilled were results of an explosion of gas in the shaft of the Shoal Creek Coal Company's mine at Panama, Montgomery county. The dead are: Charles Chornak, Jacob Herman, Reggie Romania, Joe Gauer, George Maneheft and Jay Wilber.

On the morning of November 11, 1910, a miner, Reggie Romania, who had been discharged, accompanied by Charles Chornak, went into the mine to get Romania's tools. They were cautioned not to go into the first west entry as there was a squeeze, and gas had been found near the face of the entry.

However, they went and the explosion followed. The explosion was not severe at the point of the origin, but the deadly afterdamp overcame three of the men, while they were endeavoring to rescue their fellow workmen.

Your inspector got to the mine and took charge of the work of securing the bodies of the dead miners, which was accomplished at 5:00 o'clock the following morning.