

CLIFTY CONSOLIDATED COAL CO., Clay, Ky.

R. D. Holt, Supt.; B. R. Monroe, Mine Foreman.

This mine is located on the L. & N. R. R. about one and one-half miles from Clay, is a shaft mine working No. 9 Seam, coal is mined by Sullivan machines and shot off solid, is hauled by mules and Direct Current Trolley locomotives and is ventilated by straight blade direct connected ventilating fan, 7 feet in diameter, driven by steam. This mine has a black slate roof and is operated on a double entry system.

OLD HICKORY MINING CO., Providence, Ky.

S. K. Luton, Supt.; B. M. Hatley, Foreman.

This mine is located on the L. & N. R. R. between Providence and Clay and is a slope mine working No. 9 Seam, at present time coal is being shot off the solid but preparations are being made to install Sullivan Iron Clad machines. Coal is hauled by mules and has a slate roof fairly good, operated on the triple entry system.

ST BERNARD MINING CO., Earlington, Ky.**ARNOLD MINE FIRE.**

On November the 16th about six thirty I was called to Earlington to the Arnold Mine where seventeen men were caught in number 14, 15 and 16 entry by mine fire. This fire was first discovered by a colored driver pulling coal to the motor lieway. When I reached the mine, relief crew had already been organized and was working to establish a temporary line of stoppings around the fire to the rooms off the sixteenth west entry to effect the rescue of the seventeen men that were in the effected area. This was pushed with all energy to number 13 room when the heat indicated that the fire was just a short distance away. This Brattice line was continued on the intake side through the room to number 20 room when the stopping was removed to short circuit the smoke through to the 15th entry where it could return outside and take the smoke off the men entombed. The rescue party got to the men at 1:50 A. M. on the 17th inst. who had barricaded themselves by erecting a wooden brattice at room 48 on the 16th west

entry, there we found eleven men living, five dead, one unaccounted for. A diligent search was made through the effected area as far as could be gone for the smoke or to room No. 30. When all hopes of recovery of this man, Emmitt Franklin, colored, was abandoned. After a careful consultation with Geo. L. Powell in charge of the Bureau of Mine Rescue Car, myself and the officials of the St. Bernard Mining Co., it was decided to seal the effected area, which was done at once. The men who were alive were given medical attention inside the mine by resident physician and physicians from Madisonville, and were afterwards removed to the Hospital, the dead being turned over to the undertaker. On the morning of the 18th, Chief Inspector Blenkinsopp, Asst. Inspector U. D. Williams of Lexington, and also W. H. Hunt, Asst. Inspector of Central City, Ky., together with myself proceeded to make a joint inspection of the mine but as the effected area had been ceiled, no decision could be determined as to the origin of the fire. The theory had been advanced that the fire had originated from an upper or No. 11 Seam and penetrated to strata to No. 9 Seam, but after a careful comparison of maps of both mines, we found that the distance between the two fires, the one in the Arnold Mine and the one at old No. 11 would be 2600 feet apart with 80 foot of strata between the two Seams.

This area remained ceiled until December 17th. After the days work was over Geo. L. Powell and myself in company with the mine officials proceeded to reopen the ceiled area. We first opened the ceil five in the 14th west entry, the ceil in the return of air then opening the ceil in the 16th west entry at the intake. After waiting considerable time after we had started the ventilation of circulating through the ceiled area, we advanced down the 16th entry as far as No. 8 room, where the slate was falling and the area having cleared sufficient to allow us to advance further. We decided it best to wait until next morning leaving the effected area to air out during the night, leaving three men to watch the return from the ceiled area to see if any smoke was coming out.

On the morning of December 18th, we started in to explore the effected area in search for the trapper boy that was not

recovered. Going down the 16th west entry to room No. 8 where we had to take to the rooms through breakways, there was a fall on the entry from room No. 8 to room No. 20. Searching every place for the entombed man, but no trace could be found of him. On Monday, December 20th, I returned to Earlington and we made a thorough search for the trapper boy, but no trace could be found so we decided, both Mr. Powell and myself, and the officials of the St. Bernard mining company, that the boy had gotten back to lieaway and was covered by slate fall. The company at once began to remove and clean out the slate, so that the body of the boy could be recovered, but on the night of Dec. 28th one of the men working cleaning up this slate, discovered the odor of the decaying body and traced it to room 25, just a short distance from where he had been working, this being the first time any odor had been noticed and we had been in this room searching for the boy on three different occasions, but as he had crouched down beside the rib and was almost covered with soot and slack, you could hardly detect him. The undertaker was notified and he came in the mine and prepared the body for burial, then he was removed to the cemetery.

The fire originated from a short circuit in the electric wire about room 16 on the 16th west entry. The company is not going to operate this section of the mine any more.

ST. BERNARD MINING COMPANY.

Earlington, Ky.

November 17, 1920.

The following men were dead when found at 1:50 A. M. These men were found on West 15th Entry opposite room 48.

Hugh M. Perkins, Roy Carnes, Jack Bond, and Alex James.
George Andrews (In mouth of room 49 on West 14 Entry.)

These men were in West 15 Entry opposite room 48—unconscious when found.

Henry Yarbrough, Felbert Yarbrough, Jas. Rose, Walter Bryant, Jeff Hall, John Bradford, Geo. Hines and Tom Grant.

Clarence Jameson, and Henry Jameson, unconscious in room 49 off West 15 Entry.

Emmitt Franklin was not found.

Leonard Luton, conscious in West 15 Entry opposite room 52.

Madisonville, Ky.

November, 19, 1920.

On November 16th fire broke out in the Arnold mine of the St. Bernard Mining Company at Earlington, Ky., when seventeen men were caught in Nos. 14, 15 and 16 entries. Fire was first discovered at 2 p. m. by a colored driver driving from a lieaway at or about Nos. 44 to 47 rooms and the officials were notified at once, also the Mine Department. Mr. Roberts, Assistant State Inspector for the district at Madisonville who was out in the field got to the mine at 7 p. m. A crew had been organized at this time and work had begun on temporary stoppings to establish ventilation through rooms at right of entry 16 West to effect a rescue of these seventeen men in the affected district. This was rushed with all energy to No. 13 room when heat indicated the fire. The brattice was continued on the intake side to No. 20 room when the stopping was removed to short circuit the smoke through to 15 entry where it would return outside, and take the smoke off the men affected. The rescuing party got to the men at 1:50 a. m., on the 17th inst. who had barricaded themselves in by erecting a wooden brattice at 48 room, 16 West entry, and there they found eleven men living, five dead and one unaccounted for. A diligent search was made for this man through the affected area as far back as could be gone for the smoke or to No. 30 room when all hope of recovery of this man, Emmitt Franklin, colored, was abandoned, after a careful consultation with Geo. L. Powell, in charge of the bureau of Mine car, Mr. Wm. Roberts, Assistant Inspector and the mine officials. It was then decided to seal up the affected area, which was done.

The men who were found alive were given medical attention inside the mines by resident physicians and physicians from

Madisonville and afterwards removed to the hospital, the dead being turned over to the undertakers.

On the morning of the 18th Chief Inspector of Mines Blenkinsopp, and Assistant Inspector Williams, of Lexington, also W. H. Hunt, Assistant Inspector of Central City arrived and with Mr. Roberts proceeded to make a joint inspection, but as the affected district had been sealed a decision could not be given as to the origin of the fire at this time.

The theory had been advanced that a fire in the upper or No. 11 seam had penetrated the strata to the No. 9 seam at this point, but after comparing maps of both mines we find the distance between the two fires 2600 feet with 80 feet of strata between the two seams. A section of the strata shows, beginning at the top of No. 9 seam, two to five feet of black slate, 22 feet of gray slate, fifty feet of solid sandstone and three feet of fire clay immediately under the No. 11 seam. None of this strata was broken by caves at the point of the origin of the fire; neither did the affected area of fire in No. 11 show any near above normal temperature, nor the surface any caves in the immediate vicinity of the fire in No. 11, which occurred in 1913, and upon examination of the stoppings of the affected area of No. 11, the stoppings were found cool and normal showing no heat whatever.

Provisions have been made at these stoppings to take temperature readings daily, and as soon as the temperature becomes normal the affected area will be reopened and the body that is now enclosed recovered and also a thorough investigation made as to the origin of the fire.

The officials of the Bureau of Mines and State Department of Mines, in their efforts to rescue the imprisoned men, received efficient co-operation from the employees of the St. Bernard Mining Company and the officials of the West Kentucky Coal Company of Sturgis, Ky., and officials of the U. M. W. of A. of Dist. 23.

L. BLENKINSOPP, Chief Inspector of Mines.

WM. ROBERTS, U. D. WILLIAMS, W. H. HUNT, Assistant Inspectors of Mines.

ST. BERNARD MINING CO.

Earlington,, Ky.,
December, 31, 1920.

Mr. Lawson Blenkinsopp,
Chief Inspector of Mines,
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir:—We wish to inform you that the body of Emmitt Franklin, colored, who lost his life in the fire in our Arnold Mine, on November 16, 1920, was found about 11:30 p. m., December 28, 1920. The exact location of the body was in the extreme corner Right hand rib at the widening of Room 25 on 14th West Entry.

Very truly yours,
H. S. Sizemore,
Ass't Gen'l Superintendent.

INQUEST.

In the Matter of Inquest held before J. D. Clark, Coroner of Hopkins County, Ky., over the dead body of H. M. Perkins at Earlington, Hopkins County, Ky., on the 16th day of Nov., 1920.

VERDICT OF THE JURY

We, the jury, summoned and sworn to inquire into and say in writing what manner H. M. Perkins came to his death, when, where, how and by whom, and who were present, and who are culpable of the act if any one, find that the body before us is that of H. M. Perkins, about 42 years of age and that he came to his death in the following manner to-wit:—by fire in Arnold Mine November 16, at Earlington, Ky. Cause of fire unknown to us.

This 18th day of November, 1920.

Joe Brown; Marion Goodloe; W. T. Hogge; J. E. McAfee;
Oscar East and Wesley Hancock. Jury.

Witnesses:—Frank Rash; Mr. Nichols, Foreman; Wash Hines; Orland Luton; Will Rodgers and Tom Payton.

This 18th day of November, 1920. J. D. Clark, Coroner
Hopkins County.

Attest:

Roscoe Eastwood, Clerk and Sec.

Elex James, 27 years; George Andrews, colored, about 60 years; Roy Carns, 23 years; Jack Bond, 46 years.

Hon. Lawson Blenkinsopp,
Chief Inspector of Mines,
Lexington, Kentucky.

Dear Sir: I herewith submit my Annual Report as Inspector of the Second District of Kentucky, for the year ending December 31, 1920. I am pleased to report that I have received the hearty co-operation of the operators, mine officials and miners, during the past year.

Respectfully yours,
W. H. Hunt,
Asst. Inspector 2nd District.

PACIFIC COAL CO., Mercer, Ky.
Express Office, Central City, Ky.

This mine is located on the Illinois Central R. R. Three miles South of Central City. Was opened in 1901 by Shelby Gish; sold by him to L. T. Dixon, Chicago. This property was bought by the present owners Apr. 15th, 1918.

Officers: Anna L. Glass, Pres.; Irvin L. Glass, V. Pres.; C. D. Glass, Sect. & Treas.; J. O. Baily, Mine Foreman; Will Foster, Electrician.

This is a shaft mine 80 feet deep working No. 9 Seam 5 feet thick, has good shale roof working on the double entry system, shot on the solid, shot fires men charge and load their own holes.

Equipment: 3 Walton Boilers, 100 H. P. each, 1 Morgan Gardner 100 K. W. Generator; Leitchfield Hoisting Engines; 10 feet fan self dumping cages Shaker Screens; one 8 ton Jeffrey Locomotive. Daily output of 800 tons.

MORGAN MINE.

Inspected Sept. 30th, 1920.

Rework brattice line on Eighth North entry, no reading