COAL FIELDS IN STATE DESCRIBED

Analysis and General Characteristics Given by U. S. Department.

Lignite from the Oauchi county is high in nitrogen. Lignite samples taken in the vicinity of the Oauchi river and the vicinity of the Oauchi coal bed show that it yields an average of about 55.5 million of coal.

The coal-producing districts show that lignites rank as one of the best known and as a gas producer in the middle of the state, especially in the area of the E. A. T. district.

As its content of moisture is high, 30 to 40 per cent, the lignite is little used for burning as fuel; when air-dried, it is used as a fuel for industrial purposes, and as material for the manufacturing of briquettes.

The lignite, because of the development of the coalfield, is located in a small area.

These coals of Arizona that have high lignite content will be further described by the Bureau of Mines as low sub-bituminous coals.

Lignite Is Now Converted to High Grade Fuel.

Washington, March 24.—Experts of the Bureau of Mines have discovered what is described as an economical process for converting lignite which opens up a possibility of converting these low-grade coals to high-grade fuel.

Expensive lignite fields lie in North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, and other states west of the Mississippi, offering rich possibilities of a large market. The new process will be worked by the Mid-Western Coal and Coke Company, which has been organized for the production of high-grade fuel from lignite.

The Mid-Western Coal and Coke Company, a new corporation, will file a suit for incorporation of the capital stock of $100,000 for the construction and operation of a lignite coal plant to produce high-grade fuel.

Incorporation Matters.

The incorporators are Carl, B. R. G. C. A. B. S., of Chicago; D. F. F. M. B. M. T., of Chicago; and J. L. T. S. S., of Chicago. The secretary of the state is the incorporator. The name is Mid-Western Coal and Coke Company. Incorporation was granted.

Mid-Western Coal and Coke Company, having received capital stock of $100,000, is incorporated under the laws of the state of Illinois, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling coal products and doing all necessary and proper acts for the furtherance of the corporation. Incorporation was granted.

Northern Coal Company, Fort Smith, Arkansas, is incorporated under the laws of the state of Arkansas, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling coal products and doing all necessary and proper acts for the furtherance of the corporation.

COAL INDUSTRY IN STATE INCREASES

Production 34,135 Tons Greater for 1929 Government Report Shows.

(The Gazette Correspondents, Washington, D.C., March 25.—The coal production in Arkansas during 1929 shows an increase of 12,928 tons over the production in 1928.

The report shows a total production of 34,135 tons, compared with 21,207 tons in 1928. The increase is attributed to improved methods of mining and increased demand for coal.

The report also shows that the coal industry in Arkansas is in a healthy condition, with a steady increase in production and new developments in the mining area.

For 1930, the report forecasts a continuation of the trend of increased production and development in the coal industry in Arkansas.

Arkansas-Okahoma Institute Is Organized at Fort Smith.

Fort Smith, Aug. 30.—Representatives of the coal companies of the Arkansas-Okahoma Coal Institute met here last week to organize the largest gathering of coal men ever held in the nation's capital.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the Mouth and Western mining areas, and is contributing much to the commercial development of the coal fields of the two states.

The Mouth coal ranges in thickness from 3 to 10 feet, with an average of about 6 feet. The coal is high in quality and of good grade, with a high volatile matter content.

The width of the field is from 8 to 12 miles, with an average of about 10 miles. The coal is high in quality and of good grade, with a high volatile matter content.

The most valuable area of lignite occurs in the southwestern field, south of the Oauchi river and the vicinity of the Oauchi coal bed. The lignite is high in quality and of good grade, with a high volatile matter content.

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Other officials announced the appointment of J. C. R. H. E. N. J., of Fort Smith, as secretary of the institute, and will direct the entire institute.

The purpose of the organization is to bring the different associations into a closer relationship, and to promote the welfare of the mining industry in the two states.

By the direction of Secretary Herbert H. M. D., the following body of words was written out of the minutes of the meeting:

Arkansas-Okahoma Institute is organized at Fort Smith, secretary.

The following is a summary of the meeting:

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Coal Mine Near Beebe Has Been Reopened.

Beebe, Dec. 20.—A coal mine has been reopened on the farm of Mr. George Beardmore, at Round Mountain, 2 miles west of Beebe. The mine is under lease and is being operated by A. B. Burow of Beebe. Two men are employed, four of whom are miners, and they are taking coal as orders come in.

This mine was in operation for a short time about four years ago and when the mine had taken out about 500 tons of coal, it was closed down. Since being re-opened about two months ago, about 30 tons have been sold.

LIGNITE GAS PROBLEM SOLVED IN GERMANY

New York Times, April 2, 1923

Kassel, April 11.—After many years of scientific research and elaborate experimenting, the problem of making gas from lignite has been solved. It was announced today by the Lignite Gas Company here. The new process developed by the company in the municipal gas plants promises to be of the highest economic value since it will free gas production in eastern German provinces from Western and Silesian coal and make possible the construction of new gas works from middle German lignite deposits.

The new gas has been tested successfully by distributing large quantities over the Kassel gas system. The consumers, unaware of the change, did not notice any difference. The remarkable efficiency of the new process is shown by the fact that the gas yield from lignite is 60 to 200 per cent greater than from coal. Moreover, the cost of coal needed for conversion of lignite into gas is said to be covered by the value of remaining lignite ools.

While details of the process are not divulged, it was learned that plants for gas production from coal cannot be used but expensive new plants will be necessary. These expenses however, are negligible particularly in countries where there is no coal but plenty of lignite, notably Spain and Italy.

New Coal Mine Opened

Jasper, Aug. 26—(Special)—Joe McManus of Compton, Newton county, reports that the firm of Pure & Wright, which has a lease on land near Compton, has struck a good grade of coal. It is engaged in mining and marketing it. It is said that the coal is to be found in paying quantities and that most of it will be marketed at Harrison and adjacent territory.

Four or five men have been employed some time operating the mine, but now that the coal seems to be at hand, the force is expected to be increased. People around Compton are enthusiastic about the new mine, which is expected to be of benefit to that part of the county.

Newly Discovered Coal Vein Is Being Mined

St. Joe, Oct. 7—(Special)—After prospecting for more than a year, it is announced that a big vein of coal has been located near the Ponder schoolhouse near Compton, in Newton county, and a coal mine is in operation there, operated under the name of Wright & Purvis owners of the land. Already the miners have developed large quantities of the coal for delivery in Harrison and nearby markets.

A coal yard will be maintained at the new Compton mine.

The coal is reported to be an excellent grade of soft coal. The producers hope another year to install modern mining machinery and operate on a large scale. At the section is about 20 miles from the railroad, the coal must be carried by truck to shipping points.

TWO PEOPLE, including those familiar with the coal trade, the term "anthracite" ordinarily denotes hard coal produced in the northeastern counties of Pennsylvania. Even some close observers are not generally aware that a considerable amount of coal with characteristics and anthracitic qualities is produced outside of Pennsylvania—and that the volume of this production has been steadily increasing. Such coals are commercially produced in the Crested Butte field of Colorado, the Los Cerrillos of New Mexico, in the Spadra and Russellville districts of Arkansas, and in that portion of the Valley coal fields of Virginia lying in Montgomery and Pulaski counties.

From $36,324 net tons in 1913, the index numbers of this period are reduced to index numbers in Table II, taking the year 1913 as 100. It will be seen that the output of Pennsylvania anthracite was 15 per cent less in 1928 than in 1913, and that over the same period the extensive production of bituminous coal increased only 4 per cent.

The production of all hard coal outside of Pennsylvania, on the contrary, increased 96 per cent; and if the years 1925 and 1926, when demand was unusually stimulated by the long Pennsylvania suspension, are taken, the increases are 117 and 132 per cent, respectively. In only two periods—1914 and 1922—has production gone below the 1913 level; and in the latter of these two years the disturbing factor was labor difficulties.

The relative increase in the production of "other hard coal" is correlated with a large increase in the average value per net ton received at the mine. For example, the value per net ton obtained in 1928 represents a gain of approximately 26 per cent over the $2.58 for 1913. In general, values received at the highest levels from 1910 to 1923, with averages ranging from $4.91 to $5.75. The years 1923 to 1928, with average values from $4.19 to $4.70, marked a recession in prices, partly due to the nationwide depression in the coal market. The effect of this price recession, however, was partly offset by the increased production in later years.

In contrast to the downward trend of average realizations on bituminous coal since 1920, the average on all hard coal mined increased, while tending upward since 1922, have rema...
Underground Riches

Fifty-one Years Ago Mining Began in the Paris Area With a Production of 25 Tons Annually—Now the Output Is Numbered by Several Thousand Carloads and 1,000 Men Are Employed During the "Run." Working Conditions Are Not Severe and High Wages Are Paid the Miners.

By CLYDE W. PETTY

Times have been hard for the operator, too, for prices have cascaded downward until a low was reached last year. Maintenance costs, production cuts, and development work, make a steady drain on the operator. Prices must be higher for him to make a substantial profit.

Expectations are for a "good run" this winter and some of the mines are expected to open soon. Some mines are working now but not at full capacity. The run of coal depends on the severity of the winter in the North. The more snow in the North, the more coal in the South. Do not tell a miner that you hope the winter will be mild.

Vein of Coal Near Conway To Be Developed.

Special to the Gazette, Feb. 16, 1932.

Conway, Nov. 5—Working reports indicate that a seam of coal has been found near Conway. Veins of coal up to 2 feet thick and of undetermined width have been opened and 40 or 50 tons of coal already have been taken out. The coal deposits begin about 15 feet underground and slopes downward at a pitch of 30 degrees. For the present the stratum of coal has been opened to a width of only about nine feet.

Specimens of the coal have been sent away for laboratory examination, but the analyses have not yet been returned. The coal appears to be a semi-anthracite variety of unusual purity, it is said, Mr. Tinsley and his father, W. M. Tinsley Jr., operate two mines near Paris and are connected with the Paris Ferry Coal Company, which owns several coal mines in Logan county.

For the present it is planned to truck coal to Conway for local consumption, but, Mr. Tinsley said if the coal deposit proves as extensive as indicated, steps would be taken for their development on a large scale.

New Coal Mine To Be Opened Near Fort Smith.

Fort Smith, Nov. 13 (AP)—A new coal mine, employing 25 men, will be opened at Johnson, 10 miles south of here, Saturday. The mine, to be known as the International Mine, will serve points in Nebraska, Iowa, and Kansas City.
Discovering A Coal Field

The Story of How "Uncle Bob" Waddell 68 Years Ago Indirectly Led to the Discovery of the Coal Fields in West Central Arkansas, Today a $1,000,000,000 Year Industry.

By JOHNNY ERP

Living quietly and unobtrusively in his 101-year-old house at Paris, in Logan county, is the man who discovered the now large coal fields of west central Arkansas.

He is "Uncle Bob" Waddell, now 87, but still very active. It was through his desire to help his father find a substitute for charcoal in his blacksmith shop 68 years ago that the Paris coal field was discovered.

The father, Jose Waddell, served the few families in the little Logan county community of these days as blacksmith. The families had their mail addressed to them at Celion, which in reality was the eight-room postoffice log home of Jesse Waddell. While Uncle Sam long ago discontinued this old postoffice, the building still stands and in it "Uncle Bob" Waddell mages his home. The 181-year-old structure is a tribute to carpentry of the early days.

Jose Waddell was continually complaining about having to use charcoal to heat his furnace, but hard coal was too expensive for him to think of adopting it. So he continued to use charcoal—until Bob stepped into the picture.

The discovery of coal began one day in 1898, when his father's first aid in the shop, came home excited. He had discovered a small crumbing of semi-anthracite coal about three miles west of what is now the city of Paris. At that time, it was merely three miles west of the woods, Uncle Bob explained.

The stuff was the very thing Bob's dad needed. So Bob, the first coal miner, operator and chief distributor, started in the coal business alone.

He had his father make him a pick. With the aid of this home-made implement, Bob dug about four tons of this coal. The surplus supply which his father could not use, he sold to nearby blacksmiths for 75 cents a bushel.

"Nobody dug any then 'cause they didn't know about it. That's why I got as much for it," Uncle Bob explained.

And today—some 68 years later—an average of 450,000 tons or so, if you are rail
road mined, 5,500 carloads of that same commercial coal, is shipped mostly to Northern states. Twenty-one mines are now in operation, and they stay that way on the average of eight months out of the year. With this many mines in operation, that means approximately $1,250,000 is paid to operators for this commodity with about two-thirds of this total going to cover expenses and laborers for digging this black substance from the bowels of Mother Earth.

Although millions are being brought into At the left is a recent photo of "Uncle Bob" Waddell, now 87, who discovered coal in the vicinity of Paris. Above is the old Waddell home, 181 years old, and where "Uncle Bob" makes his home.

The county through the years that have passed since "Uncle Bob" made the discovery, has profited by it. He said more actual cash on his coal project back when he was a kid in "tennes" than he does now. It wasn't "Uncle Bob's" showing of nature to remain in one business too long. He sold his small coal mine and started in the sawmill business. From this he moved on to the lime and cement business, and then to the cotton gin, serving the city later in all offices, from jailer to alderman. He was even a deputy under two sheriffs—Jim Garner and Major Cabin.

"Uncle Bob," while not in perfect health today, enjoys to talk over the past as he sits under the shade of a 115-year-old spreading oak tree in front of his old home, which, incidentally, is the oldest standing house in Paris. He stands with in an inch of being six feet tall, weighs 175 pounds, has a thin cropping of cotton hair which blows to the four winds, while a pair of gray eyes twinkle over memories of the days in Paris even another debt to this man and his father. The father, who purchased 256 acres of land there when he first settled, donated the tract of land where the present Logan county courthouse now is erected. The smithy also gave the ground upon which the Catholic church stand.

And his son, Bob, gave the land for the Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian churches.

Today—as a result of "Uncle Bob's" boyhood discovery, some 4,000 people not only have places to worship in, but 460 million dollars—deep down under the earth—digging for coal—the main industry here—just because a boy wanted and found something to replace charcoal.

Oldest Benning Field Mine To Continue in Operation.

Brinkley, Ark., July 20—The Mine No. 2, in operation since 1895, and the survivor of six mines sunk in the Brinkley field, will continue in operation the next month.

Plans are under way for removal of an 84-acre block of coal area north-west of the mine, and this is expected to add many more years to the life of the veteran mine.

Under the proposed extension, the vein of coal will be mined by the so-called "hollowing" or "coal" method, after the lower stratum, which is 12 inches, will be removed.

The middle bench will be removed by this method instead of being blasted down with both veins of coal and handled at a great expense.

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Report Made
On Arkansas
Coal Mines

$3,000,000 Value of
1935 Output for 65
Mines in State.

Washington—The 65 coal mines in Arkansas produced 1,132,279 tons of coal valued at more than $3,447,750 during 1935, a substantial increase in the amount of coal over 1934, but a decrease in comparison with 1929, of 37%. A report, made public today by the Department of Commerce, revealed the average number of wage earners for the year at a peak of 2,600, the number on the rolls varying from 2,000 in October to 4,000 in February. The maximum monthly total wages paid amounted to $69,913. In addition, $400 was paid in comparison to 169 salaried employees engaged at the mines or in offices directly connected therewith, exclusive of salaried personnel in general administrative offices not connected with the mines.

Coal mines in Arkansas spent $2,769,141 for supplies and materials in the year 1935. The cost of electricity was $98,818 and of purchased electric power $5,762.

Sebastian County was the leading producer with 26 mines producing 637,583 tons of coal valued at $2,004,243, followed by Franklin County with nine mines producing 158,759 tons valued at $499,113, and Johnson County with 14 mines having a combined production of 197,325 tons worth $596,427.

New Coal
Development
Planned

Gazette, 4-11-37

Ashley, April 10—The M. and A. railroad probably will add coal to its tonnage in the near future, if plans being made by John Webb of Mountain View, who owns 240 acres of coal land in the northwest corner of Columbia county, work out. The greatest difficulty at this time is the construction of a road from the mine to the M. and A. line at some point below Batesville.

In a recent interview Mr. Webb said he had a civil engineer look over a route from the mine to the railroad, and he says he finds no difficulty in getting a good grade over which trucks can be operated.

"The property lies five miles east of Mountain View, in the northwest corner of Columbia county, and three miles from Batesville. It is on the M. and A. railroad," he said. "The road I intend to build will have to be constructed on a grade over the road above."

Some of the coal apparently lies under all of the 240 acres I own and on adjoining property north and east. From the extent of the deposit, the size of the vein and quality of the coal I think it is likely that an industry can be built up around it. I am in a position to sell coal at a very good price."

"The vein is a bladed vein of soft coal, 11 inches thick where it outcrops on the side of the mountain, and is apparently continuous through the mountains for some distance south and east on the side of the mountain, where it is about 11 inches thick. There seems to be no limit to the width of the vein."

"I have turned this coal and have tested it and found it a very good coal. It is a good coal in the never-dies, and shows no signs of being any better for any fire. Blacksmiths in this section have used it for years with good results."