

88,033

Hopkins County's Coal Output for 1900 Exceeds 1899 by That Many Tons.

JANUARY WILL BREAK RECORD

Muhlenberg Shows Loss and Ohio County Only Slight Gain.

Less than a year ago the State Mine Inspector, Hon. G. W. Stone, wrote to THE BEE a letter giving in full the statistics of Hopkins county's coal production for the year 1899. In the first paragraph of the letter he wrote: "There were no labor troubles nor strikes nor suspensions from any cause. The year's record must be very gratifying to everybody. * * * On the whole record as made, with present conditions and future prospects, the entire people of the county may well congratulate themselves on the existence in their midst of such favorable conditions for living and wealth, and should strive in every honorable way to maintain them."

During 1900 the miners and the people of Hopkins county have shown no disposition to change the advantageous and exceptional conditions of which Mr. Stone speaks, with the result that the continuous working of the mines of the county with the unchanged, harmonious relations of miners and employers has again produced a very gratifying increase of coal tonnage for the year.

The total output of the commercial mines of Hopkins county for the year 1900 reached the enormous figure of 1,353,740 tons, which is an increase of 88,033 tons over the previous year. In 1899 business in every branch had increased and expanded enormously and the output of the Hopkins county mines was phenomenal, being 303,991 tons more than that of 1897.

This much for Hopkins county where the mines have been and are all non-union mines and not subject to strikes and lockouts at

the pleasure of the paid agitator and walking delegate.

Compare now with the two next largest producing counties of Western Kentucky, Ohio and Muhlenberg, where the mines are all operated by union miners.

1900 COMPARED WITH 1899.
Hopkins, increase 88,033 tons.
Ohio, increase about 2,000 tons.

Muhlenberg, decrease about 1,000 tons.

These figures THE BEE secured by wire from the State Mine Inspector in order to be able to furnish the information while it is news to our many interested readers. We will give more detailed report later.

HOPKINS COUNTY.
1898—Output in tons..... 961,715
1899— " " "..... 1,285,708
1900— " " "..... 1,353,740

These figures look good. They tell the story of continuous, contented work by a force of men free of the dictation of labor agitators, strikes and lockouts.

OHIO COUNTY.
1898—Output in tons..... 436,518
1899— " " "..... 515,867
1900— " " " (about)..... 517,800

Ohio county works union labor and shows an increase over 1899 of only 2,000 tons. In the increase shown for 1899 over 1898 the "principal gain was made at the Taylor mines, where there was a six-months strike in 1898 and almost continuous work in 1899."

MUHLENBERG COUNTY.
1898—Output in tons..... 268,507
1899— " " "..... 414,846
1900— " " " (about)..... 413,900

Muhlenberg county also works union miners. The loss for 1900 compared with 1899 is about 1,000 tons.

HELD FOR DIXON CIRCUIT COURT.

Two of the Men Charged With Holding Up Non-Union Laborers.

DIXON, KY., Jan. 25.—The examining trial of the three union miners charged with holding up non-union miners enroute to the Providence Coal Company's mines, was held here yesterday. Albert Blivens and Mose Anderson were each held in the sum of \$250 to appear at the April term of Circuit Court, and in default of bond were sent to jail. The third man proved an alibi.

Albert Blivens is a brother of Hiram Blivens, who is in jail here awaiting trial on charge of shooting, from ambush at night, Robert Holloman, a guard for the Providence company.

It is charged that Blivens, Anderson and others, armed with guns, intercepted a lot of non-union colored laborers who were being taken to Providence by wagon, and threatened them, trying to turn them back. The driver forced his way through their ranks, and no one was hurt. None of the rest of the party has been apprehended, but warrants are out for them.

SLUSHER GOT SIX MONTHS.

Pugilistic Election Ruffian of Louisville Sentenced by a Jury.

LOUISVILLE, KY., Jan. 25.—Chas. Slusher was given six months' confinement in the workhouse at hard labor, by the jury in the circuit court, this afternoon. Slusher is the pugilist who committed assault and battery on the person of Dr. D. T. Smith, a reputable physician of Louisville, at the notorious election of November 6, 1899. Dr. Smith was acting as a special bailiff by order of Judge Toney's court on that day, and had been appointed by the court to serve notice of injunction upon certain election officers of this city to compel them to admit Brown inspectors to the polls.

A Novel Idea.

Washington, Ind., Jan. 28.—The Rev. I. I. Gorby, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, has been employed by L. H. Creager to deliver a fifteen-minute sermon every morning for one month to the sixty workmen in Creager's stove and heading factory. The Rev. Gorby delivered his first sermon at the factory this morning.

LION'S TOOTHMARKS ON ROOSEVELT'S GUN.

An Exciting Adventure in Which President-Elect Used Knife.

Meeker, Colo., Jan. 24.—News direct from the Keystone Ranch, at which place the Roosevelt hunting party is stopping shows that between January 12 and January 22 twelve grown mountain lions, three kittens and eight lynx cats were killed.

On Saturday last the party had quite an exciting adventure with one lion. The lion was held captive by and was fighting with the whole pack of hounds. The hunters were trying to get near enough to the animal to kill it with their knives, when it seized one of the dogs by the jaw. Gov. Roosevelt shoved the breach of the gun into the lion's mouth, holding the gun by one hand and with the other striking a death-blow with his knife. His gun shows the marks of the lion's teeth. All the grown lions were killed with the knife.

In Defense of Kentu by Character.

Apropos of the discussion as to whether "Stringtown-on-the-Pike" was a true Kentucky story Prof. William Goodell Frost, President of Berea College, Kentucky, writes to a New York paper: "You will excuse me for some special interest in the criticism of the character of the Kentucky mountaineer as exhibited in the popular novel entitled 'Stringtown-on-the-Pike,' which has appeared in your columns. No people need a friendly interpreter more than the American Highlanders, and as President of Berea College, I have had exceptional opportunities, and it has been my special duty to study their character, and all that can be known of their history. This week four mountain boys have walked to Berea, distances ranging from ninety to one hundred and twenty-five miles.

"I believe that they are belated people, living a life of survivals, and not a degraded population. I further believe that with their native ability, substratum of character and American spirit, they can be made into good citizens cheaper and faster than any other of the people who have not yet shared the advantages of education.

"The lynching of negroes in the South is a barbarism that is without excuse, but the mountain people are not the ones who are guilty of such outrages. They are to be sharply distinguished from the 'poor whites' who lived in the lowlands in the midst of slavery.

"In the novel referred to I hardly think the career of 'Red Head' will excite emulation in the reader. And I am quite sure that the thousands of young men who carry revolvers in the mountains can be led to change their ideals of 'honor' by proper education in a single generation. They merit considerable regard of their fellow-countrymen."

Dr. Clark Refused New Trial.

HENDERSON, KY., Jan. 25.—Attorneys for Dr. W. E. Clark, sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, at a special term of the Webster Circuit Court, for the murder of Miss Cora Waller by performing a criminal operation, made a motion for a new trial. The motion was overruled and the case will go to the Court of Appeals. An order was made suspending judgment for sixty days, pending the action of the Court of Appeals.

A negro charged with insulting two young ladies came near being lynched at Glasgow Monday night.

REPORTED KILLED.

U. S. Marshal Hollified and Posse Clash With Moonshiners.

Later Report Says He Was Only Stunned by An Explosive Bullet.

A report from Jackson, Ky., dated Monday said that in a fight between revenue officers and moonshiners on Elkhorn creek in Letcher county Friday morning last, at daylight, Deputy U. S. Marshal, Thos. Hollifield and posseman Simon Combs were killed, possemen Rufus Wooten and Ambrose Amburgy were wounded, and Blaine Combs was taken prisoner. It is not known whether any of the 'shiners were wounded. The captured now is believed to have been killed after he was taken. The posse at daylight saw a thin stream of smoke indicating the operation of the still. They slipped up on it, but had to cover an open space. As they made a rush across this space for the cave where the still was situated they were fired on from the top of the cliff. Hollifield was one of the oldest and most fearless of the enemies of illicit distilling. His home was in Knott county.

A later dispatch says Hollifield was not killed but badly stunned by an explosive bullet and that one of the attacking party was badly wounded.

Reduction in Revenue Lists.

The war revenue reduction bill as agreed upon by the Senate Finance Committee provides for a reduction of nearly \$40,000,000. Taxes are repealed on the following:

Premissory notes, mortgages, bills of lading for export, powers of attorney, protest, charter, party, certificates of all kinds, leases, warehouse receipts, telegraphic dispatches, telephone messages, passage tickets costing less than \$30, express receipts, bonds, except bonds of indemnity, legacies to religious, charitable, literary or educational institutions and commercial brokers.

Social Happenings.

Misses Annie and Gertrude Cavi-ness entertained quite a number of friends last Friday evening in very pleasant manner. Popular games were indulged in until a late hour, and all present expressed themselves as having a fine time.

Miss Celeste Moore entertained the Carrorns Club in a most pleasant manner last Friday evening. Although this is the third season that the Club has been holding its meetings, the interest does not wane, but rather seems to be on the increase, and is well attended. Those present were: Misses Agnes Burr, Carrie and Lucy Crenshaw, Mary Norwood, Frances Young, Minnie and Alice Bourland, Eula Richards, and Amelia Price; Messrs. Paul Price, Henry Bourland, W. R. Coyle, George Mothershead, Dr. James Scull, and Messrs. Will Davey, Jerrold Jenson, and Will Mills, of Madisonville; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Rash and Mrs. E. A. Chat-ten. After the game, delicate refreshments were served. Several musicians were in the party, and furnished some beautiful music before the crowd disbanded.

Letter List.

E. F. Arnold, Bob Browder, Hulda Babbitt, Mrs. Kate Chitlous, Thos. Carns, Mrs. Elizabeth Coz, Eugene Dumont, Mrs. Jennie Fowler, Ben Garrett, Thos. W. Gaines, Collins Small, W. R. Hodgrs, Miss Lizzie Hill, Boyd Laffoon, Thos. Love, Miss Lena Luckett, Ernest Moore, Julia Moses, H. H. McIntosh, Jene Mane, Lizzie McLin, James Merriweather, Mary Murdock, Jack Martin, Martha Purdy, Malvine Reeves, Eugene Raives, T. W. Smith, Mr. Shaldon, H. H. Shelton, Ann E. Tapp, Jack Taylor, col., Ona Tucker, Wall Vincent, M. A. Venson, Marshall Williams, Maggie Walker, Paralee Wilson, Sara Williams Wm. Warker.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Ways of Living in Hopkins County Then—"Good Old Times" Had Their Drawbacks.

OLD CUSTOMS GRAPHICALLY PORTRAYED

(Written for THE BEE.)
People living at the present time have but a faint idea of the hardships and disadvantages that our fathers and mothers were subjected to; and, while we don't claim to be very ancient, yet we have a very distinct recollection of a decidedly different state of affairs to that of today.

Fifty years ago such a thing as a frame house was unknown in the county. Instead, we had, for the most part, log cabins, which were of logs cut and "scalped, i. e., the sides slightly flattened. Instead of rafters, "ribs" were used, and on these were laid boards for the roof, which had to be flat enough to keep them in place, as nails were seldom used. A stick-and-dirt chimney was made by building up its walls with small timber, with rock and mud on the inside, up to the stem, the stem being constructed with split timber—building it the desired height—and then plastering the whole, inside and out, with mud. The hearth was formed by beating in dirt and covering the top with mud, carefully smoothing it down and allowing it to harden. Floors were made by splitting slabs and smoothing them as best they could with an ax. Window glass were seldom used; instead, shutters were made of boards and hung with leather hinges. Two rooms and a smoke-house were about all the average man desired. Cooking was done in the open fireplace, stoves being almost entirely unknown. A skillet with lid, an oven, coffee-pot, and—sometimes, but not always—a teakettle; corn-bread, hog-and-hoanin, but rarely biscuit, constituted the staple diet of the country. Sometimes a man with more pride and ambition would have a house of hewed logs, with a brick, or rock, chimney and floors of plank which had to be sawed by hand with a whip-saw, one hundred feet being considered a good day's work for two men. Breadstuff was ground by horse-power, at the rate of four bushels per hour. Wheat was cut with a scythe—a handful at a time—bound and shocked when thoroughly dry. A yard was prepared by scraping the grass and weeds from a space about 100 feet in circumference. On this was placed enough wheat to cover it about two feet deep. Horses were then rode around upon it until the grain was all out; the straw was, then removed, the wheat piled up in the middle of the yard, more wheat placed around and tramped out as before. When all was done, a fanning mill was procured and the wheat cleaned of chaff and at least part of the dirt, it was ground on a horse-power mill without any further cleaning. It was hand-bolted and taken home to be used as necessity demanded—when company came on a Sunday morning. Soda was never used, saleratus being used instead. Meat was plentiful, hogs in the woods remaining fat throughout the year; deer and turkey were also found in the woods, though not in vast numbers at that time, yet it required no great skill to secure a good supply of venison. Squirrels were so numerous as to amount to a pest and furnished occupation for the children in keeping them from destroying the corn. The creeks, too, were full of fish, and nearly every family had a mess at least once a week. The land was rich and yielded fine returns for the partial cultivation it received. A plow with a wooden mold-board and an iron point being the best to be had; hoes were homemade and weighed six or seven pounds; harrows were made with wooden teeth, and pitchforks by selecting a sapling with a fork and shaving it down to the proper size. No grass of any kind was raised, but every man had a patch of flax, which was pulled by hand, laid in a swath to rot, and at the proper time was tied in bundles and put away until needed, when it was "broke" by hand, "scotched," "hacked" and spun and wove into cloth for shirts, pants, tablecloths, etc. Nearly every family had a cotton patch for producing cloth for dresses. Shoes were made at home, both for everyday and Sunday wear.

and you might go to church or other gathering and not see a single pair of what was called "store shoes." In summer-time, boys of fifteen years and younger invariably went to church barefooted; and when a boy began to wear shoes he was said to have "set out." A wagon was a very uncommon thing, our wealthiest farmers having nothing better than ox-carts; buggies were extremely rare, so much so that if anyone happened to come to church in one the moment he left it, it would be surrounded by a crowd of boys who examined it in every detail. Horses were plenty, but saddles scarce and costly. Tobacco seldom sold for more than two or three cents per pound; pork, two cents, and difficult to sell at any price. Eggs, butter, potatoes, and similar products, could not be sold at all. You could buy a good milk cow for \$7 and the very best for \$10; wheat was worth 50 cents per bushel—when it could be sold at all; corn had no selling value, and we have known it to be shelled by hand, ground on horse-mill, hauled to the Ohio river and sold for 20 cents per bushel. A good horse sold for \$25, and the very best for \$75. Hand-made wagons were worth \$150. A two-horse wagon was unknown fifty years ago in this part of the county.

A good hand hired for \$10 a month, an extra stout one for \$12. Work on a farm was laborious—rolling logs, splitting rails, clearing ground, fencing etc; raising barns was also hard work. Every good farmer had to have a log-rolling in the spring; it would require one day, sometimes two or three, and even more, on each farm, to pile up the logs ready for burning. Every man for at least three miles around would be invited. A jug of whiskey was always a feature of the occasion, some believing that an occasional dram made them stronger and better able to endure fatigue.

But the grandest time was had in the fall, after the crops were gathered.

Corn was gathered, hauled and piled up by the crib. A night would be set (corn-shucking was invariably done at night), and a few white neighbors invited, and word sent out among the negroes that there would be a corn-shucking at a certain place, and every negro for miles around would come; it would begin to arrive as soon as it was dark, singly and in droves; a song would be raised (all joining in the chorus), the corn-pile surrounded and work commence. Soon some one would find a red ear, when the cry of "dram! dram!" would be raised, and the bottle passed around. Every red ear was expected to produce a dram. Sometimes, when red ears were numerous, the bottle or jug would be reported empty, to keep all hands duly sober. Usually by 9 o'clock, 80 to 100 barrels of corn would be shucked. The negroes would then take the owner on their shoulders, carry him around and into the house and put him to bed; supper would be eaten, and, after patting and dancing for an hour or two, they went as they came.

In those days schools and school-house were quite different from what we see now. A log house, with a "Puncheon floor, clapboard loft, weight poles, and the corners not sawed off." Frequently the floor was omitted. A whole log was sawed out to furnish light, and it was not replaced with glass, but a wooden shutter. A huge fire-place, six or eight feet wide, built; trees of the proper size were cut, split and the flat side smoothed off, holes bored and legs put in, which served as seats; wooden pins were driven into the wall on which to hang baskets containing dinners.

The schoolteacher was absolute monarch, having sole control over the scholars. Anyone who could read and write and knew the multiplication table and had "eiphered to the rule of three" was considered amply qualified to teach school. We remember going to school to a teacher who told us when we got as far as fractions that they were of no ben-
(Continued on Seventh Page.)