

Great Hopkins County Fair, August 1st, 2d, 3rd, 4th and 5th.

GRANDER, GREATER, MORE AND BETTER ATTRACTIONS THAN EVER BEFORE. DON'T MISS IT.

COAL DEAL.

Facts About the Recent Western Kentucky Purchases and Ownership.

The North American Co. will Secure Entire Capital Stock of West Kentucky Coal Co.

So much has been put into print in the daily press recently about the transfer of coal properties in Western Kentucky to The North American Company, the soul of which company, the dispatches tell us, is the wealthy and widely known New York capitalist J. Pierpont Morgan, that a glimpse at rock bottom facts will prove interesting. The Bee has made special effort to get these facts, now presented to our readers.

The properties that have been absorbed by the North American Co., are the mines and equipment of Tradewater Coal Co., of Sturgis, the United States Gas & Coal Co., of Sturgis, the Wheatcroft Coal Co., of Wheatcroft, the Baker properties in Webster county near Dixon, and various coal rights swelling the total acreage in lands and mining rights to about twenty-five thousand acres.

The Wheatcroft deal is the last to be consummated and there has been denial that this sale was made, but it can be stated with excellent authority that Wheatcroft mine has been sold for and will come into the hands of the North American in due time.

Various large figures have been used as the marks at which these different properties have changed hands, all of which have been more or less guess work. For instance, the Wheatcroft deal is quoted all the way from \$160,000 to \$300,000, the latter figure, if authentic, said to include river equipment and elevators at various Ohio and Mississippi river points. It is a safe proposition that all such speculation as to values in such transfers are generally without authentic information and often wide of the mark. It seems most likely, however, that The North American Co., has paid very good prices for the properties they have acquired. What appear to be the most authentic figures are Tradewater Coal Co., \$400,000; United States Gas & Coal Co., \$600,000; Baker properties, \$100,000; Wheatcroft, \$160,000. The properties bought include the coal elevators at Paducah and Memphis, and the towing equipment of the United States Coal Co. It is the purpose of the West Kentucky Coal Co. to ship coal by river, thus opening markets not now attainable by railroad transportation.

These properties have been bought for and held by one company instead of two or three companies, as some published reports have said. This purchasing company is The North American Co., of New York, in the directorate of which company appears the name of Robert Bacon. Mr. Bacon is one of J. Pierpont Morgan's partners in the banking business and this fact has given rise to the widespread connection of the name of the wizard of Wall Street with these ventures. Whether Mr. Morgan is actually interest-

ed in these Western Kentucky coal operations will probably remain, as it is now, a guess.

The West Kentucky Coal Company has been organized under control of the North American Co., and will take over and operate all these properties purchased by the latter company. The following dispatch from Wall Street gives detailed information of the transaction and shows the connection of the two companies.

Five Hundred Thousand Dollars And Thirty-Year Five Per Cent Bonds.

New York, July 31.—It was learned today that amount invested by North American Co., in purchase of 23,000 acres of coal lands in Western Kentucky is \$500,000. For this the company will secure entire capital stock of West Kentucky Co., organized to assume ownership of the property. In addition to capital stock there will be a thirty-year 5 per cent bond issue of more than the amount of the capital stock. It understood that arrangement have been completed for sale of bonds to banking interests close to the North American Co. There may be a public offering of the bonds later.

The North American Co., is incorporated under the laws of New Jersey, organized to "engage in railroad and general financing and promote street railway and electric light and power enterprises." Its capital stock was originally \$50,000,000, which was subsequently reduced to \$12,000,000 but later increased to \$17,000,000. This last increase in stock was for the purpose of purchasing the stock of the Laclede Gas Light Co., of St. Louis, and was made in March 1903. The North American Co. also controls the Union Electric Light and Power Co., of St. Louis, and, through the same plan of stock ownership, other such properties at Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Detroit and elsewhere.

It is the declared purpose of the West Kentucky Coal Co., to ship a large portion of its output by river to St. Louis for use in the gas and electric plants controlled by The North American Co. Two coal fleets have already been sent to St. Louis. Some coal men of wide experience question the practicability and the profit of shipping by river to St. Louis but the new company is starting out to make a thorough test of the matter, and the question of its profitableness must wait in the public mind the results of this test.

Sixteen to One in Earlinton.

There are sixteen people who want to rent a house to one for rent.

There are sixteen sober men to one who drinks.

There are sixteen pretty girls to one homely one.

There are sixteen church members to one non-church member.

There are sixteen men who work to one who loafs.

There are sixteen bachelors who want to get married to one who don't.

There are sixteen ladies who attend prayer meeting to one man.

There are sixteen girls who chew gum to one man.

There are sixteen people who talk about their neighbors to one who does not.

There are sixteen people who look back in church to see who came in to one who does not. There are sixteen happy contented families here to one discontented one.

A Lawn Party.

Miss Edith Rootz was hostess at a delightful lawn party Friday evening given in compliment of her guests, Mrs. Lucas and Miss Eastwood. Games were played and refreshments served and a merry time had till the wee small hours.

HELD BY SLUGGERS

Non-Union Men Believed to Have Been Brutally Tortured in Chicago.

Former Army Officer Captive for Three Weeks Bears Proof of Violence Committed by Thugs.

Chicago, Aug. 1.—Apparent evidence that labor sluggers maintain in Chicago a place where systematic torture is meted out to those incur the displeasure of the sluggers has just come to light in the case of William H. Wilder.

Wilder was formerly an army officer, and at the time of the recent teamsters' strike was claim agent for a Chicago package express company. He disappeared July 6, and was held captive for three weeks, and was then set at liberty, half starved and so dazed that he has not been able to give a coherent account of his captivity. He was found by a friend wandering aimlessly about near the Union Station at Canal and Adams streets and was taken to his home at Downers Grove. Physicians pronounce his physical and mental condition such that he may not recover. Much of the time he raves wildly and, as though still under torture, begs for mercy. Marks all over his body show that he had been bound with heavy cords. Over a hundred dollars he is known to have had on his person in one.

Wilder is an Englishman who saw service in the American army in Cuba and in the Philippines and held a commission as a second lieutenant in the regular army. He is a bold, outspoken man of thirty-seven years of age, who gloried in his physical ability to take care of himself and defied pickets or sluggers to intimidate him.

Fugate-Moore.

Mr. Will Fugate, of the Bethlehem neighborhood, and Miss Jessie Moore, of the Grapevine vicinity, were quietly married Sunday afternoon at the residence of Elder S. F. Fowler in Madisonville by Elder T. D. Moore, of Hopkinsville. The bride is the daughter of Elder W. H. Moore and is an estimable and popular young lady. Mr. Fugate is a farmer and is possessed of many excellent qualities. Their many friends wish them all happiness.

New Plan.

The Barley tobacco growers, after months of labor, have evolved a plan which they think will place them beyond the reach of the tobacco trust. A new company, with a capital stock of \$1,500,000, has been organized and a committee appointed to apportion the stock among the Barley producing counties in the district. The new company will act as buying and selling agents for the farmers.

Escaped Murderer Captured.

Hopkinsville, Ky., July 28.—Claude Dixon, the murderer of Matthew Sumner, who, with several other prisoners, escaped from the Trigg county jail at Cadiz last January, has been captured by officers of the law near Horn Lake, DeSoto county, Miss., and has been returned to the county jail at Cadiz by Sheriff Bud Hammond, of Trigg county, who went to Horn Lake after him.

FOUND DEAD.

Mrs. Luster, Wife of the Telephone Manager at Guthrie, Found in Her Room Dead—Husband is Missing.

The mystery surrounding the death of Mrs. Ella Hill Luster, who was found dead in her room at Guthrie a few days ago, is no nearer solution than it was when she was found. The whereabouts of P. J. Luster, her husband, is shrouded in equal mystery. The police have made a search of the surrounding country and have even dragged nearby streams, but without finding the slightest trace of the missing man.

Shortly after the finding of the body of Mrs. Luster, an inquest was held by Coroner Bruce, County Attorney J. R. Maloney assisting. The verdict of the jury follows:

"We, the undersigned jury, appointed to inquire into the cause of the death of Mrs. Ella Hill Luster, do hereby find that she came to her death by a pistol or gun wound in the hands of some unknown person."

An investigation of the Luster home showed that the utmost care had been taken to prevent early discovery of the crime. Every door was found to be locked and the keys were thrown away. The windows were tightly nailed down and into the telephone receiver had been packed paper, so that no possible sound could reach the central office.

The following was sent out from Guthrie Monday:

Although no positive clew has been discovered as to the whereabouts of Percy J. Luster, whose wife was found murdered in their home, thorough search of the house has revealed two railroad guides of lines in Mexico and Canada, and it is the general belief here that he has started for one of those countries.

He could, it is believed, have easily gotten out of town without creating any comment, as he was accustomed to take an early train in going to Trenton, where he had interests.

Burglars Visit Earlinton.

Burglars entered the residence of Ed Cunaingham Friday night and carried off his best shoes. On the same night and the night after the light fingered gentry forced an entrance into the residences of L. H. O'Brien, E. L. Wise and J. W. Robinson. At Mr. Robinson's Miss Minnie Goodell, the trained nurse, was sitting up with Mrs. Robinson who was ill and discovered the intruder just as he was coming in the window. He was frightened away without obtaining anything. The ones who entered the houses of Mr. O'Brien and Wise were also frightened away before they had time to collect any valuables. It is supposed these thieves were on their way to the Madisonville fair and attempted to do a little business in Earlinton while passing through.

Mr. and Mrs. Warner Entertain.

Mr. and Mrs. Warner entertained Saturday evening a number of the young people in honor of their charming guest, Miss Warner, of Nashville. This was one of the most pleasant social affairs of the season. Nothing was left undone for the enjoyment of the guests. Dainty refreshments were served.

MILITARY.

Kentucky State Guard Going Soon to Annual Encampment at Paducah.

Company G Will Leave Home Saturday, August 26, and Will Be Gone Eight Days.

Arrangements have been completed for the annual camp of instruction for the Kentucky State Guard to be held at Paducah, beginning on August 7th and closing on Sept. 2nd.

General orders have been issued to the commanders of the regiments regarding the moving of the men under them to the camp, and regulations while there. The troops will be reviewed by Gov. Beckham, on which review days he will be accompanied by the members of his official staff. The review days of the Second regiment has been fixed for August 11. The Governor will visit the camp again on August 24 to review the First regiment troops, and will remain in the camp until the 28th to review the Third regiment.

Adj. Gen. Haley and Col. Gainex, the Inspector General, expect to have the best equipped camp ever held by the guard. First Lieutenant David Y. Beckham, Artillery corps, United States army, brother of Gov. Beckham, has been detailed by the War Department to give instructions to the troops while in camp, and will remain there during the entire time of the encampment. A signal corp will be stationed at the camp under the command of Capt. Donaldson, of Frankfort, Ky., and will demonstrate the use of the telegraph, telephone and wireless telegraphy as used during actual warfare. Rifle ranges will also be established for target practice by the troops.

Separate orders were issued last week regulating the movement of troops from their homes to the camp of instruction. Under these orders the Second Regiment will be in camp first, from August 7th to the 14th; the First Regiment will go second and will be in camp from August 17 to the 24th and the Third Regiment, to which Co. G belongs will go last being in camp from Aug. 25th to Sept. 2nd.

The local military company, Co. G, will leave here at 10 o'clock a. m. on Saturday, August 26th, for Nortonville and will leave there at 1:15 p. m. over the Illinois Central Railroad for Paducah arriving there about 5 o'clock in the afternoon. On returning they will leave Paducah on the night of Sept. 2 arriving here early Sunday morning, Sept. 3rd. It is thought that the result of the inspection held here several months ago will be announced during the encampment.

There are thieves for almost everything on the face of the earth except good advice. The most of us won't even take it "free gratis."

It is said that the conscience fund of the United States now amounts to \$400,000. This represents just that many pounds or pints of remorse.

When a fellow runs for office, it's generally considered a mild sort of mud bath.

Did you ever stop to think of it?—many rich people are poor in this world's pleasures.

A Fool and His Money.

The Good Book says "A fool and his money is soon parted." Such being the case in a brief space of time "Scotty" of special train fame won't have a red cent. In the language of the immortal Bill Nye, "a fool has come out of the West." His name is Walter Scott not he of novelistic fame, however, but a miner from the dreary waste of Death Valley, where he claims to have a gold mine of inexhaustible richness. Scott recently paid \$9,000 for a train that could make fast time across the continent and afterwards visited New York where he out Carnegie in attempting to separate himself from his wealth. This week he visited Cincinnati and did "Coal Oil Johnny" stunts that astonished the natives. He purchased vast quantities of champagne for every one in sight and there were a number always in sight. This kind of business will be of short duration and in the cold gray dawn of the sweet subsequently Scotty is going to wake up not famous as he fondly hopes, but broke, dead broke.

LOCAL COAL OPERATIONS

HURT BY YELLOW FEVER.

Scarc Causes General Demoralization of Business in the South.

COAL MAN SAYS ORDERS AFFECTED.

To one who measures influence by miles of space the statement that the yellow fever scare in New Orleans has had and is having its effect upon the coal business of Hopkins county, Kentucky, would seem like a dream of the pipe. Nevertheless, the facts justify the statement and the conditions are such now that the business interests of this county are today sustaining a loss through the falling off in orders to the coal mine operators, directly because of the yellow fever at New Orleans. The effect here is only temporary, of course, but any decrease in coal orders at this season of the year is felt more keenly by the operators and miners, because the coal business is normally of the minimum volume.

An operator on the Illinois Central railroad said yesterday that business south of Memphis was more or less generally demoralized because of the yellow fever, the quarantine regulations and the fear that the disease might spread beyond New Orleans. Most of the coal that goes from Hopkins county to Memphis, he said, goes through the wholesalers to points beyond, and this is the trade that has fallen off. This is true, both as to coal shipped to the railroads and for general use. The railroads are hampered in their efforts to get labor to handle coal at the stations where they store large quantities. Hence their orders are also curtailed.

The authorities at New Orleans cheerfully assert through the dispatches that they are surely getting the disease under control and the rest of the world is waiting hopefully.

Could the cackle of a hen be called a lay sermon?

Right behind the champ who desires to know if it is hot enough for you, comes the fellow who first inquires if you think we have had rain enough this season.