

P.C.C. News

VOLUME 2

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NUMBER 4



CHAMPION COAL...

deserves it's name

HAND PICKING THE LUMP COAL

The fellows working on the stainless steel picking table on the left side (from the top down) are Jack Lefebvre, Don Nice and Andy Yurosky. On the right are Leonard Metrovich, Rex Anderson and Joe Kleer.

Champion 1 is the largest preparation plant operated by the company. Located on Route 22, twenty miles west of Pittsburgh, it was built in 1928 and has processed over 54,000,000 tons of mine product. It is served by the Montour Railroad.

All the production from Montour 4, Westland and Clark, almost all of Montour 9 production and some 500 tons per day from Montour 10 are processed through the plant.

The mine product is dumped by a rotary railroad car dump at the rate of about 1000 tons per hour. From a bin underneath the dump the coal travels on a 60" belt past an electro-magnet which removes all metal objects. The belt dumps the coal on shaker screens which make the first separation. The coal which passes over a screen with 7" openings (known as plus 7") is cleaned by pickers removing the slate and other material. Coal which goes through a seven inch screen but passes over a three inch screen (3"x7" coal) goes to a heavy media vessel for cleaning. The separation of good coal from the refuse is accomplished in the heavy media vessel by having the raw products go into a large drum partially filled with water to which has been added a heavy iron ore called magnetite. This increases the buoyancy of the water so that coal (which is lighter) will float and the heavier material (the refuse) will sink. The specific gravity (buoyancy) of the water is controllable so that a very fine separation is obtained.

The product which passes through the three-inch screens is washed in the Rheolaveur Sealed Discharge Plant. Here, the separation between the coal and the refuse is accomplished by two streams of rushing water—one almost horizontal and the other vertical. The force of both streams is controllable so that at the point where they meet, the coal "floats" over the opening and the refuse sinks to the bottom of the box.

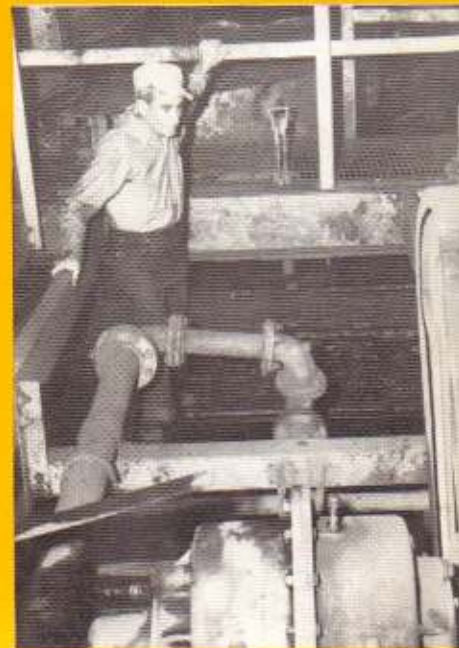
After the coal has been separated from the primary refuse in the sealed discharge plant it is screened so that coal passing through a $\frac{3}{8}$ " screen is separated from the rest of the product. The $\frac{3}{8}$ "x3" refuse is re-cleaned in another heavy media vessel. This coal, together with that from the sealed discharge unit, is then graded for size and loaded into railroad cars.

The finer coal (minus $\frac{3}{8}$ ") goes into three 27,000 gallon "boots" from which it is taken by elevating conveyors to the fine coal plant. This coal is also cleaned by being "washed" in running water in a "launder." The cleaned coal is then "de-watered" in the Carpenter dryers and the moisture reduced to an average of 10%. A greater part of it is conveyed by belt to the Disco plant where it is made into "Disco," a premium smokeless fuel. The balance is conveyed to the heat drying plant. The water used in the various washing processes finally runs into a 60-foot reservoir. The



HEAVY MEDIA UNIT FOR 3" x 6" COAL

Ed Yezski, Operator Helper, is watching the refuse come from the 3" x 6" coal. The clean coal chute is behind Ed.



WASHING SCREEN FOR FINE COAL, HEAVY MEDIA UNIT

Laido Martinez, Operator, saw the first coal go through the plant in 1928 and has been with us ever since.

CHAMPION COAL . . .

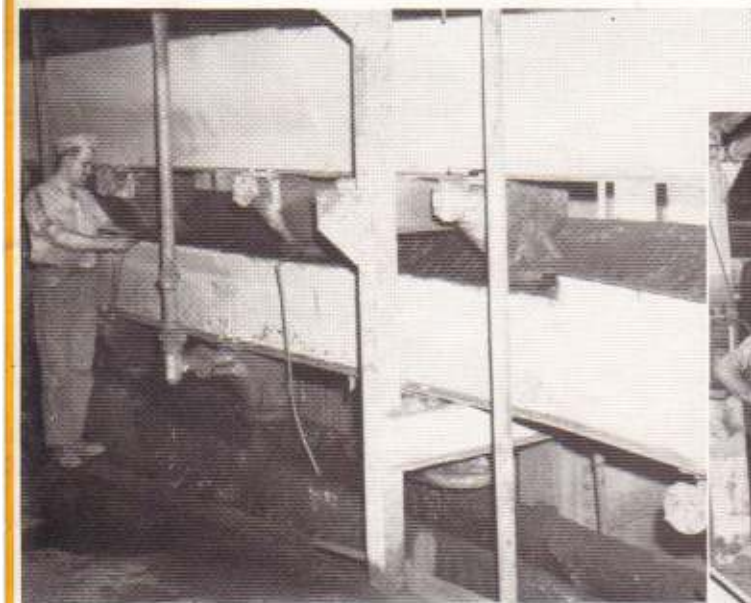
deserves it's name



Keeping the vast amount of machinery and equipment in good running order is a major job. Emerson Queen and Elio Nencioni, Mechanics, are shown at the Stearns Magnetic Separator which recovers magnetite from the system.

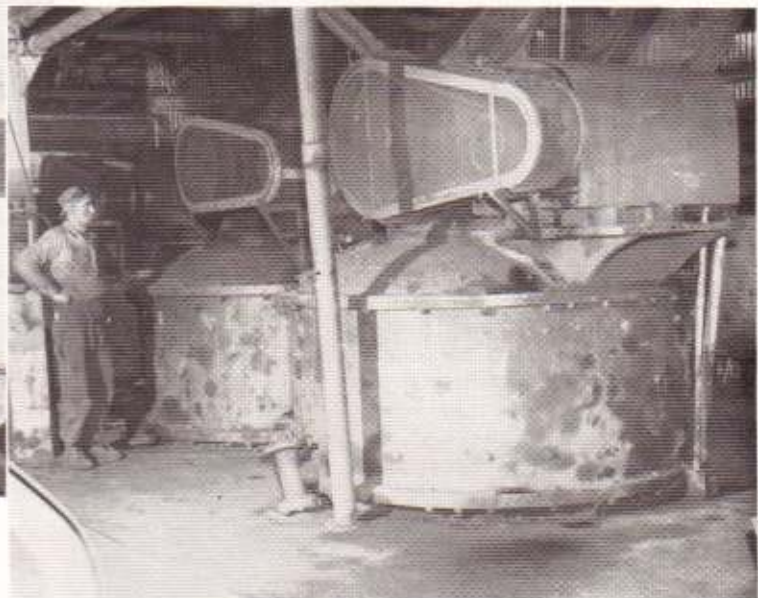


The original method of washing the coal at the plant, is pictured above. This washes the $\frac{3}{8}$ " x 3" coal by using vertical and horizontal streams of water. Bill Bastaroli, Operator, is watching the flow of coal.



FREE DISCHARGE LAUNDERS FOR FINE COAL

These launders separate coal and refuse in the fine sizes (minus $\frac{3}{8}$ "). The separation is obtained by two streams of rushing water. The heavy material (refuse) sinks and the clean coal floats. Ed Rich adjusts the flow of the water. Ed, by the way, is an amateur photographer.



CARPENTER CENTRIFUGAL DRYERS

These dryers, two of the five in the plant, remove moisture from the coal. The coal takes a dizzy ride inside the shells pictured as it is whirled at 350 revolutions per minute and at the rate of 30 tons per hour in each dryer. Moisture is reduced from 23% to 10%. Bill Prata, looking on, has been top repairman for 21 years.

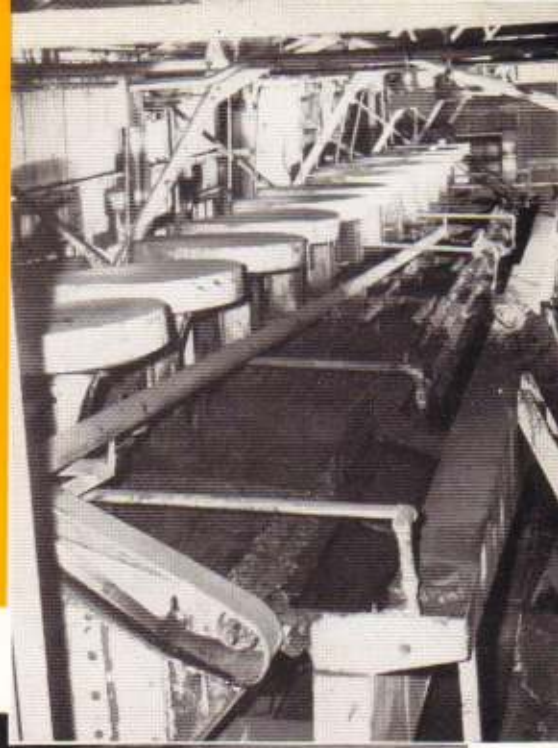




DORR THICKENER—All water from the system runs to these reservoirs. The fine coal sediment is recovered and taken back through the flotation plant.

FLOTATION →

This unit receives the very fine coal from the Dorr Thickener. Two types of oil are added to the water in the unit. One type creates a froth and one acts as a collecting agent so that the coal is collected and comes to the top of the solution in the froth. The froth, with the fine coal, is brushed off the top of the solution with rotating paddles. The coal is then taken, by conveyor, to the Oliver filters. Lee Roy Foltz is checking to see that everything is working properly.



Charles Smith, Filter Operator, is watching the fine coal come off the Oliver filter. A rotating 14 foot drum covered with cloth picks up the fine coal and the moisture is sucked out of the solution by a strong vacuum. There are three Oliver filters and each one can handle up to 14 tons per hour. The fine coal now goes to the heat drying plant.



The final treatment of the fine coal is in these large heated cylinders in the heat drying plant. The coal gets a hot ride in these 65 foot long cylinders—about 800° F in the shade. Domenico Milchiorre, Heat Dryer Operator, has been at Champion I since 1930.



sediment settles to the bottom and is recirculated through a flotation system which further cleans this product. From the flotation unit the coal goes, by conveyor, to the Oliver filters where the water is removed, thence to the heat drying plant. After traveling through 8' 6" cylinders about 65 feet long kept at 800° F, where the moisture is reduced to 3.5% the coal is ready for market.

Samples of raw coal, clean coal and refuse are taken regularly during the shift in various parts of the plant. The samples are analyzed in the plant laboratory and the results used to govern operating practice so that desired quality is maintained.

From 1000 tons per hour processed in the plant, 250 tons per hour, or 25%, is removed as refuse. A combination of screens, gates and conveyors makes it possible to load almost any size or mixture the market demands. The plant employs 133 men on two operating shifts and one maintenance shift.

Coal cleaned at Champion is a premium product and is used principally for generating steam. It is marketed as a high grade railroad fuel, used in both large and small industrial plants and is also burned in many homes.

random thots . . .



Part of the Penn State Extension Mining Class now in operation at Peters Township High School under the direction of Sam Cortis. These "schoolboys" will soon be taking the Pennsylvania Department of Mines examinations for certificates of competency which will permit them to serve as mine supervisors. Some will be striving for their fire boss papers while others will be hoping for further advancement.



With all of the distinguished visitors who come to Mathies Mine, the management recently took time out to play host to part of the mining class from Rostraver Township High School. The smiling group pictured here saw a complete loading cycle in a shuttle car section.

LINDLEY

RETIREMENTS

Wilson (Bill) Crichley

A Trackman at Lindley for the past 14 years with a total of 52 years in mines, 50 of these with our company. During this time he worked at Dickson, Margarum, Partridge, Solar and Lindley. His work as a trackman for the last 30 years was always well done and he ranked well up among the best in the district.

As a baseball pitcher back 35 years ago—well, ask any of the old timers who knew him as a ball player. His record for the year 1914 while pitching for the Imperial Independents, a semi-pro team, was 46 games won, 1 lost and 1 tied. The team record for the year was 62 won, 2 lost, 1 tied. No, we aren't wrong on the above figures. They can be verified by Pittsburgh Press files—1st Sunday Edition, October 1, 1914. (To Ed.—Mr. A. J. Wesolowski could verify this—his brother was the 3rd baseman on this club.) Ed. Note—He could and did.

His hobby today is euchre. Knows all the angles and systems and keeps his tonsils lubricated with the dimes of the losers. We wish him many years of enjoyment and fun with his hobby.

Steve Pizzini

A Trackman at Lindley since 1934, he has a total of 45 years in mining. Twenty-five years of this time with our company at McGovern and Lindley. His hobby is gardening and he can be seen in his garden daily since his retirement. His garden is one of the finest in Meadowlands and he generally is first to put his products on the table. The first onion, the first ripe tomato and the first ear of corn.

We wish him many years of relaxation and enjoyment.

The Lindley Liars' Club had to give out 2 medals this month. Frank Hall and Bill Brower shared the honors. Frank with his tale about watching a wrestling match on Television where the Grunter threw the Groaner on to the floor so hard that the television set almost fell off the stand and dust actually blew off the screen. Brower with the one about hunting rabbits for the past 45



years and never yet shooting a rabbit ahead of another man's dog. Also that he never yet required the second shot. (Pot hunter.)

Was it John McCloskey who had that slight accident on the street car while on his way to work?

Will Frank Salomon have the required number of members in his Pyramid Club by the end of the month?

Who stole the fertilizer that John Harris was going to put on his strawberries? I wouldn't worry too much, Pappy. Me, myself, I use cream and sugar on mine.

What's happened to the fishermen? The season is well along and we haven't heard even one good fish story as yet.

Bob Haley's donation of a clock to the dispatchers shanty was thoughtful.

Dirty Mouth Louie breaks out with song the last two hours of each shift. We tell you, Louie, the Railway Company is going to catch up with you some of these days.

You should receive the "News" as you start your vacation. We wish you all a good time, and please, someone, come back with a good fish story.

—John Carroll

CHAMPION 1

Stanley Pavlic, "The St. Louis Kid," who has been at Champion 1 since February, 1930, was transferred to Mathies Preparation Plant on May 1, 1949. Stan was (Jack of all trades at Champion) car dropper, oiler pumper, flotation operator, free discharge operator, and filter operator.

There was a fellow from the Product Control Department that ordered pancakes and a Coca-Cola at a restaurant near Champion 1. He was talking to someone and poured the coke on the pancakes instead of the syrup. I wouldn't tell you his name, but his initials are W.J.L.

We have found out the reason why Clyde McMurray is picking up some weight. At Mr. Bartram's farewell party he had 1 ham and 1 turkey dinner. He was eating his dinner in a McDonald restaurant one evening, and, when he finished, the waitress asked him what he wanted for dessert. Clyde said, "For dessert give me another dinner just like that."

—Eli Charlier

MATHIES

Elmer Pigford is the newest "shutter-bug" around the premises. His new camera and all the fixtures, including a dark room make the rest of us envious. Helpful hints were given Elmer by John McNeal, the old pro.

James Fisher and Betty Cleary took the fatal step on May 7, 1949. The wedding was attended by many of Jim's friends from Mathies.

Frank Lustic claims his daughter has already worn out 8 pairs of shoes. Oh, yes, Frank has worn out at least two pairs of slippers walking the floor with her.

Your Reporter is again playing softball for St. Michaels of Elizabeth and certainly boasts of the team. With a record of 72 wins against 12 losses over the past two years, you can't blame him.

Many mining men from all parts of the world have visited Mathies to see the continuous miner in operation. A delegation from France was the latest group to view the operation.

It certainly is nice to see Richard Hatfield at the mine again. Dick received a broken leg three months ago, but is now raring to go back to work.

... and shots

Tip to all mines and departments: If you're looking for the President, Vice-President, Division Superintendent or any other top official, call Mathies Cleaning Plant. This plant was given a test run May 14 and will be in operation hence forth.

The line-up of observers has switched from the continuous miner to the cleaning plant.

Joe Demcheck must have a special paint job on his car. It's always clean.

Mike Zmigrosky's bachelor standing is tottering more and more with each trip to Boston, Boy! that's long-range courtship.

The fate of a bookkeeper—Joe Gallagher has belonged to Rotary for nine months and is already lined up for the secretary's job.

Guy Fincham has switched to a high wheeled truck to get up his mud road.

—Bob Christoff

MONTOUR 4

We have finally moved into our new portal at Mayview. If anyone gets out of line, it's just a hop, skip, and a jump to Mayview Home.

Frank Campbell just moved into his new home and bought himself a new Buick. He is now confined to Mercy Hospital with an injured knee. Here's a wish for his speedy recovery.

Sal Ducarme Sr. is also confined to the Mercy Hospital. That's the place to be when you have a house to paint. Seriously, we hope his stay will not be a long one.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Chester Hitchew's granddaughter. She was hit by an automobile on Route 19.

We will miss Sam Hissom, Augie Vandale, Alex Saut and Ben Boden who moved to the new offices at Westland. Don't forget to stop around and see us once in a while, fellows.

We deeply regret the loss of Dave Snyder, assistant foreman, who worked for our company at Henderson and Montour 4 for the last twelve years. Our deepest sympathies are with Dave's family. (Ed. Note—We of the "News" have lost a fine friend and contributor. Dave was always willing to offer his services in helping us produce a better "News.")

—Sal Ducarme

MONTOUR 9

Amile Ferrard locked his car with keys in the ignition and engine running. Did that bicycle go by, Amile?

The boys on the outside are giving the place a spring house cleaning. Looks as good as Forbes Field.

Andrew Milavec is limping around with a sore back. Says he hurt it going through a door—in Clark Mine.

Fred Beyer, lampman, built a new brick home. Says he must get it paid for, so he took his daughter to El Paso, Texas, and married her off to a first louie. Fred says that this is one way to get a return on his income tax—let Uncle Sam keep her.

Admiral Atchison and Lt. Whirlow attended the show at Cleveland and arrived home looking no worse for the wear.

If you want to see a good ball club, come over to McDonald some evening.

Hangnails, splinters, or blisters are enough to cause some fellows to lose work, but not John Bostic. John, a joy crew member at No. 9, was struck on the back by a piece of slate and insisted on working 3 shifts before he finally submitted to a hospital examination. The examination showed a fractured vertebra and John asked the doctor to tape him up so that he could return to work. John's attitude toward work is unusual in these times and we feel that he should be commended.

—Clyde English

MONTOUR 10

Mike M. Paver of Finleyville, Pa., was retired at the age of 65 on April 30. He had worked here since 1932. The best wishes of his co-workers go with him in his retirement.

Mike Bishop will tell you that there are more than fish in "them thar" lakes. On one of his recent week-end trips to Lake Erie, Mike found himself struggling to keep from being pulled in the water, pole and all. When he finally managed to pull his line in, imagine his surprise to find a 25 pound turtle on the hook.

Speaking of fish and fishing brings to mind another time, in early spring, when Mike and some other fellows from the mine were not so fortunate. The fish wouldn't bite, the weather was cold, the boys were complaining and hungry, they had tried all kinds of bait, including shrimp, when finally in disgust Mike said, "To heck with the fish, let's eat the darn shrimp and go home."

A SAFETY THOUGHT—

Safety at Vacation Time?—Your darn tootin'. As much as at any other time, because it involves your whole family, your friends, and your relations. No sirree, you just can't let up on Safety one minute. You have to be extra careful to enjoy the vacation you have looked forward to and planned so carefully.

For instance, if you plan an auto trip, make sure the family car is in tip-top shape. Good tires are a must, Brush up on road courtesies and for Heaven's sake WATCH the fellow, in front of and behind you. He is generally the guy that causes the road accident.

O.K., so perhaps you are not making a trip, you would rather stay at home. Maybe you have a little job about the house that you want to do. Good enough. BUT you know something? There are more people hurt in and around the home than there are at the place of your employment, and you know why? Well, folks just let down on safety at home. They develop a feeling that nothing can happen to hurt them. Whatever you do around home, do it with the same caution and alertness you take while on the job. So, be it work or play on your vacation, if you plan it safely work or play safely, it's a sure bet you'll not regret that you took SAFETY with you.

—Joe Tasic

GENERAL OFFICE NEWS

You'll be able to find George Kelley of Purchasing home nearly every evening since he won a television set at the recent Coal Show in Cleveland.

Lunchtime was anything but a picnic for many of the G.O. personnel while Champion Stores were out on strike. A few were seen eating at their desks—and frowning at those cold sandwiches—while others crowded in automobiles and spent part of their lunch hour traveling. Many of us now appreciate the Champion Lunch Room just a little more.

Bill Black of Engineering is proudly driving a new maroon Ford these days.

It was an ordinary, sleepy Monday morning until Marguerite Ward of Treasury Department arrived—that is, until we saw the brilliance coming from her third finger, left hand. For our Maggie was engaged! She is the bride-elect of Fred E. Mueller of Bridgeville, R.D. No date has been set for the wedding at present. Best wishes from all of us, Marguerite.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Norton have moved into their new home in Union Township, Finleyville, R.D.; and Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Dengler and Family are now residing at Lambeth Drive, Bridgeville, R.D. We wish the Nortons and the Denglers the best of luck in their new homes.

A surprise dinner-shower was held for bride-to-be Hazel Van Voorhis at Celapino's on June 2 by a group of girls from the Company. The table decorations, made by "Sis" Hank, were in replica of the bridal party with a miniature bride as favors for each girl. Hazel was presented with a gift for her new home. She will become the bride of James Williams on June 24.

Did you know we have a pretty model in our midst? Here is an artist's sketch of a new photo of Lois McClymont as a child model for the Federal Supply Company as it appeared in an F. S. advertisement a few years ago. It was interesting to note that the dress Lois modeled was of celanese taffeta, trimmed with a laced-edged collar and pearl buttons—and priced at only \$1.95. Oh, for the good old days of low prices.

—Peggy Diederich



J. Frank Roth, a bureau chief in our accounting department, is scheduled to retire at the end of June. After 42 years of loyal and faithful service, Frank will certainly be missed by the general office gang.

We did not discuss his future plans, but feel fairly certain that his retirement will not keep him away from the Friday night poker club, where he is 60 percent successful in drawing 2 cards to a flush.

By way of bidding Frank farewell, a number of his friends in the general office gave him a watch.

RENTON 3

On March 3, three new records were set. The B Crew under the able direction of Vince Bogaty loaded 416 cars of coal. Harry Lang's outside crew dumped 2000 tons. The total day's tonnage was 3667 tons. The coal all but rolled up the shaft under its own power.

Chaperoned by Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Penman, Clarence Hays, Duane Gray, Harry Mulholland, Herb Gall and Phil Watson attended the Coal Mining Congress show at Cleveland. They report a bigger and better show than ever. We gathered from their conversation that the Cleveland Indians are still playing ball at the Stadium.

Recent visitors included Ambrose Eves, Jack Zorn, Ed Snyder, Walter Plaskowski and George Pivik, Sr., all retired veterans. All of them look fine and, if need be, ready for another fifty years of service.

We know summer is almost here when we hear Bob Lang murmuring sweet nothings to the lawn mower outside the office window, and Chick Binkley, Unity Railways conductor, has produced two four-leaf clovers, and all the boys are starting to tell of the big ones that got away. Happy Vacation Time.

—Paul Meredith

STRIPPING OPERATIONS

We have had several personnel changes since Utah moved west and we are glad to report that Ken Fulmer is now on the P & H Dragline at Allison, Russ Clemens in on the 6 W Monighan Dragline at Russell and Joe Skwarlo is helping Jack Seiler get coal at Allison.

Ye olde reporter and wife wish to confirm that proud parent business which appeared in the last issue of the "News." It was a boy, Andrew John, born on March 26.

Our very sincere sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hertzler who lost a baby boy shortly after his birth.

Russell Strip experienced a coal loading boom during the month of April. After low tonnage months since the first of the year, production was stepped up to two loading shifts a day on 2 shovels. If you would like to know how it feels to work double shift for a couple of weeks, ask Jack Barnhart, or some of the boys.

—Joe Orient

WARDEN

In September of 1944 a new section was added to Warden. The brain baby of Gene Mauck, this section was a little mine in its own right, and a contest was held to pick a suitable name for it. George Vidnjvich, a ten year old lad from Whitsett, offered the prize winning suggestion that we call it Victory Mine. 227,900 tons of coal were removed from Victory Mine, and we at Warden felt a deep loss when this section was closed on May 20, 1949. Seldom will you see the ideal conditions that existed at Little Victory.

—Al Simonazzi

P

roduction and progress

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 11—Employing a variation of the Disco smokeless fuel process, Pittsburgh Consolidation Coal Company, in collaboration with National Steel Corporation and the M. A. Hanna Company, is making exploratory tests of a new method of utilizing extremely fine sizes of iron ore in blast furnace operations.

The new development involves a two-step test procedure. First, fine sizes of iron ore and metallurgical coal are mixed and passed through the special process, which agglomerates the mixture into ball-shaped lumps for use in the blast furnace burden. This part of the program is being carried out at Pittsburgh Consolidation's experimental facilities near Imperial, Pa.

The second step involves the experimental use of the agglomerate in a blast furnace of the Weirton Steel Company, subsidiary of National Steel, at Weirton, W. Va.

Development work on methods of agglomerating iron ore fines has been stimulated by the increase in ore of this character expected to result from the steel industry's growing dependence on lower-grade ore deposits.

Most low-grade ores in the United States are trapped in a hard rock substance which requires crushing into extremely fine sizes to permit segregation of the iron ore from the inert material. The resultant powdered iron ore cannot be used as such in blast furnaces.

The new technique has been under development for several years by the Disco Company, a subsidiary of Pittsburgh Consolidation Coal Company, and patents on the process are held by this company.



BIG TEN—March, 1949

Crescent, 25.5, 1 Bt. 3 Face, John Fillo.
Westland, 22.3, B Ent. off 1 West, John Taylor, Ben Davis, Alex Park.
Mathies, 19.0, 7 Bt. Lt. 7 Face, Louis Fefolt, John Contenti.
Mathies, 18.8, 4 Bt. Rt. 9 Face, Harry Brewer, Elmer Pigford, William Kite.
Mathies, 16.0, 4 Bt. Lt. 5 Face, Louis Fefolt, John Contenti.
Mathies, 15.9, 2 Bt. Rt. 9 Face, Eugene Ruttle, John Bewick, Sam Krempasky.
Warden, 15.0, 8 Butt, Robert Shank, Clyde Frabizio.
Warden, 14.9, 8 Butt, Robert Shank, Clyde Frabizio.
Westland, 14.8, G-E-I St. West, John Taylor, Ben Davis, Alex Park.
Westland, 14.2, 2 South, Ed Ringer, Frank Mrenak, William Bogotay.

BIG TEN—April, 1949

Westland, 26.7, C Ent. off 1 West, John Taylor, Ben Davis, Alex Park.
Crescent, 22.9, 1 Bt. 3 Face, John Fillo.
Mathies, 19.9, 4 Bt. Rt. 9 Face, Harry Brewer, William Kite, Elmer Pigford.
Mathies, 19.6, 4 Bt. Lt. 5 Face, Louis Fefolt, John Contenti, James Spiller.
Mathies, 18.5, 7 Bt. Lt. 9 Face, Adrian, Teissier, Frank Lustic.
Mathies, 19.4, 2 Bt. Rt. 9 Face, Eugene Ruttle, John Bewick, Joe Cumer.
Montour 4, 14.9, 27 F 5 No., Ed. Sutton.
Montour 4, 14.8, 31 F 5 North, Peter Degrosky.

Mathies, 14.5, 1 Bt. Rt. 9 Face, Eugene Ruttle, John Bewick, Joe Cumer.
Montour 4, 14.2, 1 Bt. 5 No., Andy Piatnek.

BIG THREE—Union Division—March, 1949

Mine No. 3—Unit No. 9—1R24B WM—17.2 Tons Per Man Day, Chester Taylor, Carl Kiehl, John Logan.
Mine No. 3—Unit No. 3—69BL NM—14.9 Tons Per Man Day, George Adams, Thomas Hassall, Charles Flinko.
Mine No. 3—Unit No. 6—70 BL NM—14.5 Tons Per Man Day, George Adams, Thomas Hassall, Charles Flinko.

BIG THREE—April, 1949

Mine No. 3—Unit No. 3—69BL No. M—16.9 Tons Per Man Day, George Adams, Thomas Hassall, Charles Flinko.
Mine No. 3—Unit No. 6—70 BL No. M—16.7 Tons Per Man Day, George Adams, Thomas Hassall, Charles Flinko.
Mine No. 3—Unit No. 9—1 R 24B WM—16.5 Tons Per Man Day, Chester Taylor, Carl Kiehl, John Logan.

BIG TWO—Somerset Division—March, 1949

Mine 120—Unit 4 & 4½—14.7 Tons Per Man Day, Merrill Holsopple and Eugene Coleman.
Mine 120—Unit 5 & 5½—11.9 Tons Per Man Day, Merrill Holsopple and Eugene Coleman.

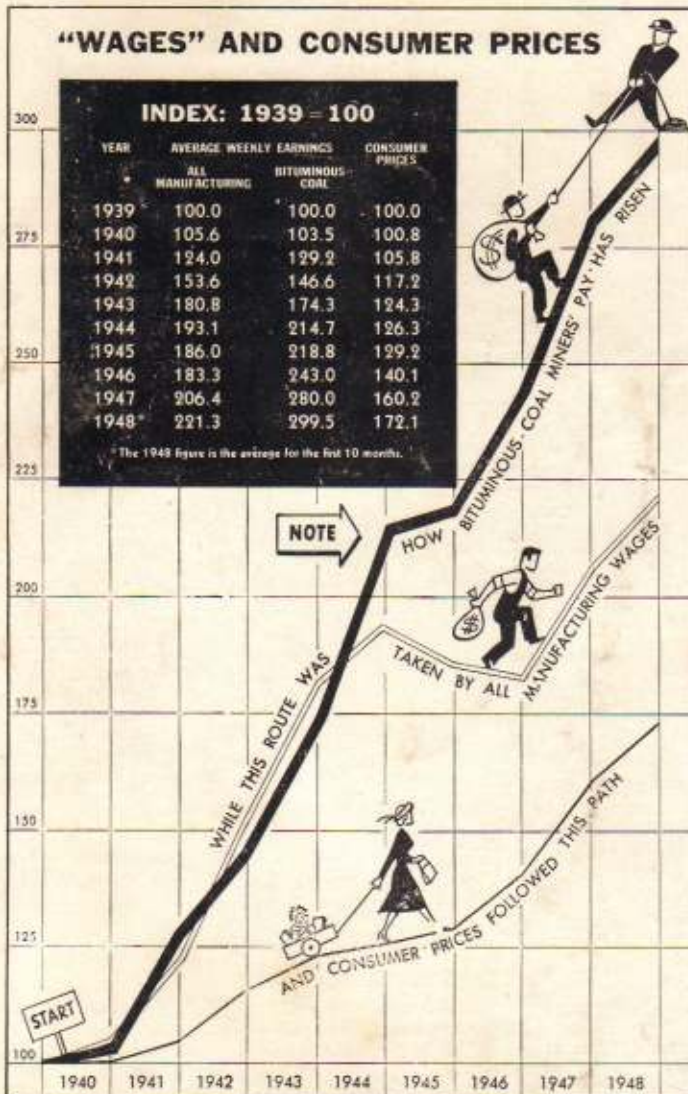
BIG TWO—April, 1949

Mine 120—Unit 5 & 5½—12.7 Tons Per Man Day, Merrill Holsopple and Eugene Coleman.
Mine 121—Unit 1 & 1½—11.3 Tons Per Man Day, R. W. Harrison and Ken Stoy.

HOW PAY AND LIVING COSTS WENT UP BETWEEN 1939 AND 1949

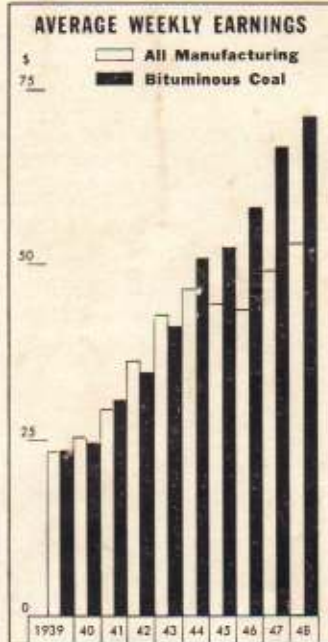
Two important facts are revealed by this graph:

- 1 How greatly the rise in the earnings of bituminous coal miners has outstripped the average for workers in all manufacturing industries. Since 1944, the spread between the average pay of these two groups has steadily widened.
- 2 How favored the bituminous coal miners are in the way their earnings have risen so much faster than the rise in the cost of living. Every year since 1939 this spread has been widened—in the miner's favor.



GRAPHICS BY BITUMINOUS COAL INSTITUTE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

1-49



AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

YEAR	ALL MANUFACTURING	BITUMINOUS COAL
1939	\$23.86	\$23.88
1940	25.20	24.71
1941	29.58	30.86
1942	36.65	35.02
1943	43.14	41.62
1944	46.08	51.27
1945	44.39	52.25
1946	43.74	58.03
1947	49.25	66.86
1948*	52.81	71.52

* The 1948 figure is the average for the first 10 months.

SOURCE: U. S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Explanation of Index Figures

Increases in average weekly earnings as computed by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics are customarily reported in dollars, whereas the rise and fall in consumer prices is reported in percentage points figured against some pre-determined base. To make a true comparison between the earnings and consumer prices, it is necessary to use the same measuring stick for both. In this graph, the pre-war year 1939 was taken as the base period. Average earnings for the year 1939 were figured as 100. Consumer prices ditto. The subsequent rises in average weekly earnings and in prices were each figured in percentage points of the 1939 base.