

MAIN ISLAND CREEK COAL CO.

HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

Exclusive Miners of

MAIN



ISLAND

DETROIT, MICH.
2235 Dime Bank Bldg.,
E. S. Van Hart, Mgr.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
1510 Merchants Bank Bldg.,
E. E. Longstreth, Mgr.

CINCINNATI, O.
907 Union Central Bldg.,
G. W. Swain, Representative.

General Interest

History of the Company

The Main Island Creek Coal Company, one of the largest and most progressive coal companies in the development of the coal measures of the Logan Field of West Virginia, has been operating for less than seven years. Commencing development in 1913, it inaugurated shipments in 1914, and within four years had directed its development so energetically and successfully, that for the year 1918, out of a total production in the Logan Field of 10,211,390 tons, over one-tenth, or 1,145,178 tons, came from the collieries of this company.

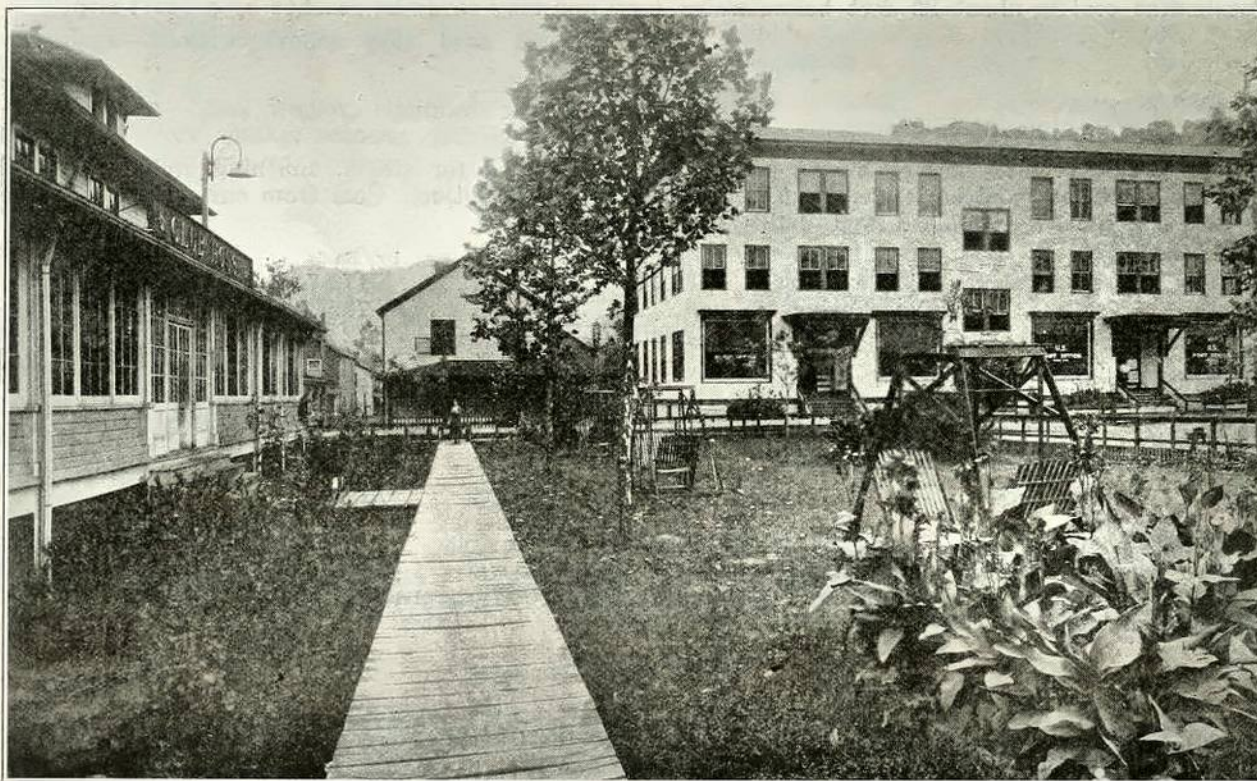
From the very beginning of this enterprise all expenditures, whether for acreage, buildings or equipment have been made with a view to creating an institution rather than a coal company. Located, as Omar is, in a section bountifully provided by Nature with both scenic and natural resources, the Main Island Creek Coal Company has labored to preserve, and even to increase, the attractiveness of its mining camps. It shall be our purpose on the pages which follow to briefly relate the story of this institution and the coal which it mines.

Location of the Mines

The Main Island Creek Group of mines is located in Logan County, West Virginia, on the lines of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, and embraces those of the Main Island Creek Coal Company, on Island Creek, with a total acreage of 30,000; Omar Coal Company, with 85 acres; Middle Fork Mining Company of 341 acres, the latter property having been acquired by purchase in October, 1919, as it adjoins and is practically surrounded by the balance of the 30,000 acre lease.

On Buffalo Creek, the group embraces the property of the Proctor Coal Company, 2,980 acres; Proctor Eagle Coal Company with 1,424 acres in its lease, and the Madne Coal Company of 70 acres.

Others of the Main Island Creek group of mines are located on Coal River and comprise the Madison Coal Company with 245 acres; Superior Eagle Coal Company, 115 acres; No. 5 Block Coal Company with 330 acres, making a grand total of 35,590 acres of coal land, on which the company has twenty-eight mines dumping over twenty-five tipples.



View of Company Office, Post Office Building and Club House Lawn

Developed Capacity of 5,000,000 Tons

These operations with the present machinery and development have a potential capacity of 5,000,000 tons annually and it is the intention of the management to increase this to at least 6,000,000 tons with the improvements already planned or under way. To attain this result, Nature has assisted in many ways and few districts are more favored in geological and topographical features than this portion of West Virginia, known as the Logan Field.

The famous Main Island coal outcrops throughout the company's extensive holdings at tipple height or a slight elevation above that, in which case it is lowered over the hill in mine cars, by monitors, or by retarding conveyors. Since its inception, it has been the policy of the Main Island Creek Coal Company to equip its plants with the best type of mining machinery and no expense has been spared to make its collieries amongst the best equipped in a field that is noted for the highest class of installations.

Business Administration

Officials of the Company

The organizer and president of the Main Island Creek Coal Company, A. J. Dalton, has been an active factor in the West Virginia mining fields for over a quarter of a century. Like his associate, John A. Kelly, secretary and treasurer, he was formerly identified with the Pocahontas fields. Henry D. Hatfield, formerly Governor of the State, is vice-president; G. M. Angell is general sales manager, and C. C. Campbell is chief accountant. All of these officials have their headquarters at Huntington. The operating end of the business is in charge of W. T. Jones, general superintendent, with headquarters at Omar.

Sales Organization

The general sales offices, in charge of G. M. Angell, are maintained in the Robson-Pritchard Building at Huntington. This city has in the past five years grown into the strategical coal center of West Virginia, and practically all shipments made from the central and southern parts of the state to western cities either pass through or by its door. A second advantage which Huntington possesses is its closeness to the Logan field. By having its general offices at this point the sales department is enabled to keep in close and constant touch with the operating department and at the same time remains in easy communication with the trade.

The company's branch offices are well located to cover the vast territory to which the major portion of its output is shipped.

Branch Sales Offices

The branch offices are established as follows:

DETROIT:

2235 Dime Bank Building,
In charge of
E. S. Van Hart, Resident Manager.

INDIANAPOLIS:

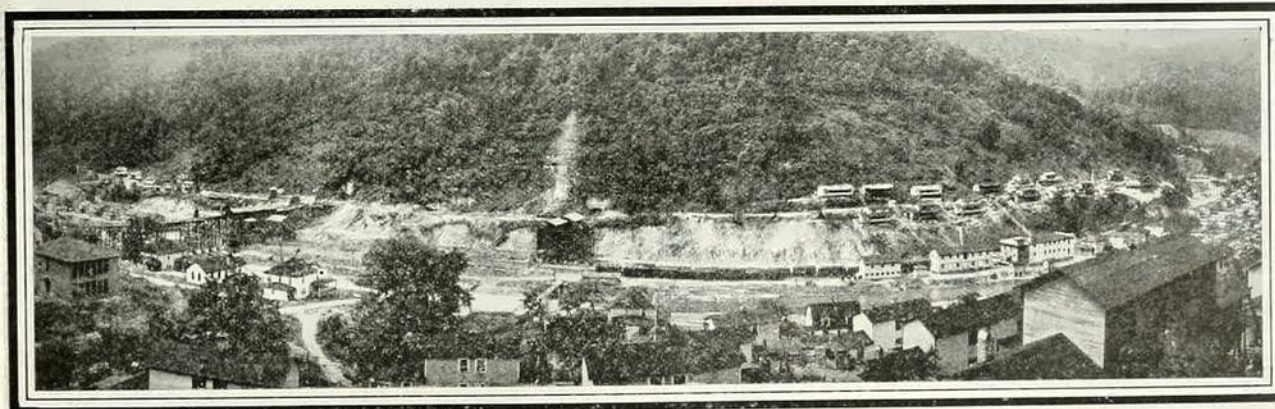
1510 Merchants Bank Building,
In charge of
E. E. Longstreth, Resident Manager.

CINCINNATI:

907 Union Central Building,
In charge of
G. W. Swain, Representative.

Traffic Department

The Traffic Department, with headquarters at Huntington, is closely allied with the Sales Department and is prepared to handle all traffic difficulties. When advised by a customer that shipment has not been received, immediate action is taken to have the cars rushed by the railroads. In addition to this service, the Cincinnati office keeps a close check on all cars passing through the Cincinnati Gateway, and is in a position at all times to render efficient and valuable service in facilitating deliveries.

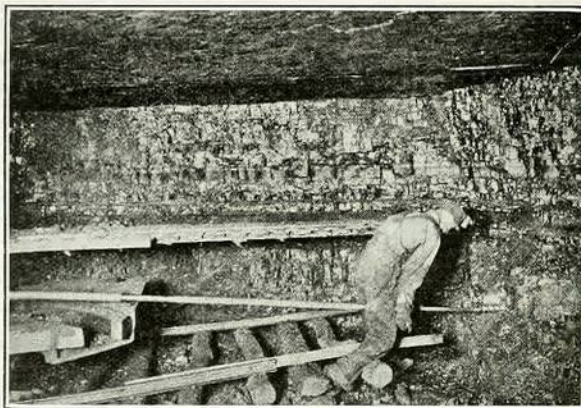


Micco No. 2 Mine

Mechanical Equipment of Mines

Main Haulage Motors and Gathering Motors

The motors utilized on the main haulage tracks at the company's 28 mines vary from a Goodman 13 ton to a Mancha storage battery motor for gathering. In all, the management has a total of more than 100 haulage motors ranging from 5 to 15 tons; all of the latest type and of proven efficiency. The majority of the motors in use are of the Jeffrey make.



Making Ready a Middle Cut

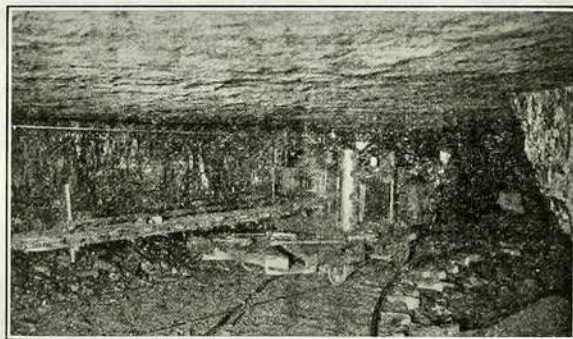
Other Electrical Equipment

The 44 electrically driven fans installed provide adequate and systematic ventilation at every working place, and no expense has been spared to insure the installation of a ventilation system that makes the mining of Main Island Creek coal so attractive that the labor problem has been reduced to a minimum. Miners appreciate the advantages and safety of working in collieries so well provided with every mechanical device that is calculated to further their comfort and safety.

The balance of the electrical equipment consists of 22 pumps, 40 drilling machines and 15 substations. In the installation of these substations the management foresaw the necessity and advisability of connecting each mine with two stations, and it is through this double connection that the loss of electrical power is provided for at any and all of the mines.

Fifty-one Electrically Operated Cutting Machines

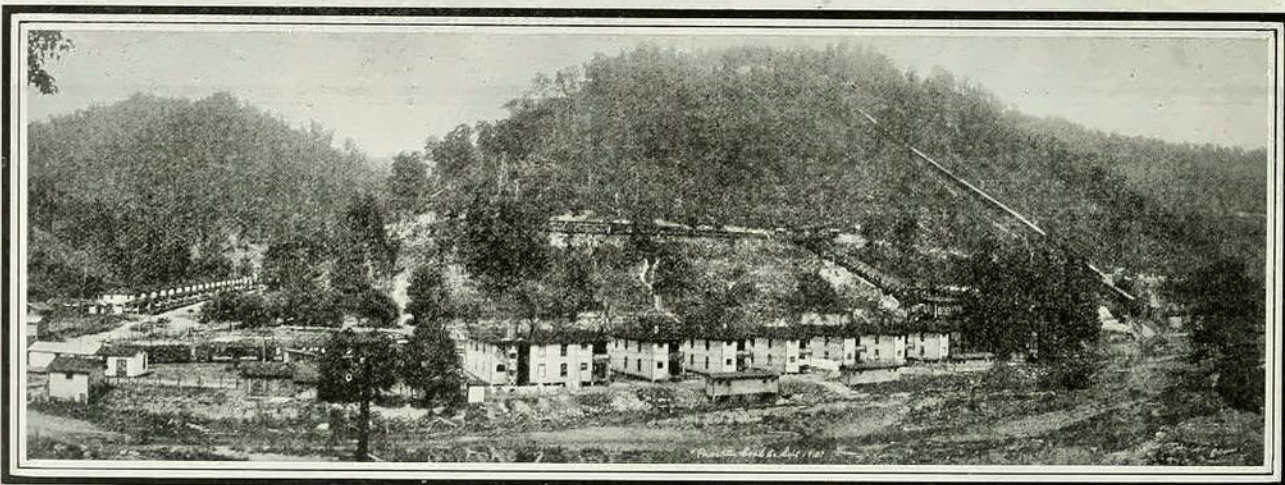
In accordance with its long established policy of providing every facility for the economical and efficient operation of its collieries, the management has installed a total of 51 electrical mining machines with an average cutting capacity of 3 tons per minute to the machine, or a total daily capacity of more than 40,000 tons.



Turret Mounted Coal Cutter

Labor Supply

In the lower mountainous part of Logan county on the enormous Main Island Creek lease, there are thousands of local inhabitants who have become expert in mining. In addition to these, large Greek and other foreign colonies have sprung up.



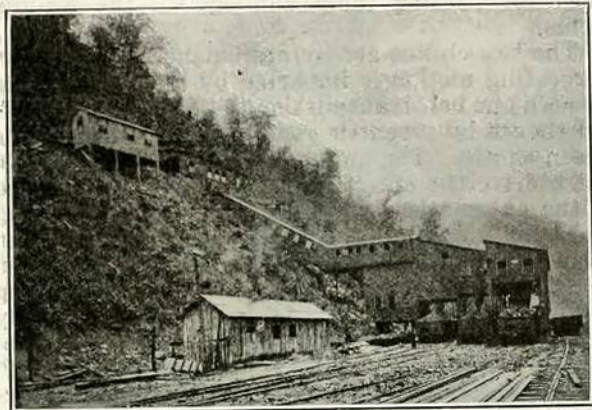
Proctor Mine

Preparation of Coal

System of Inspection of Main Island Coal

Careful preparation of coal at the collieries of the Main Island Creek Coal Company is one of the necessary requisites for holding one's job on the payroll. An inspector makes daily rounds of the various mines, visiting the working face and checking up on the methods employed by the loaders. The one unpardonable sin at Omar is loading dirty coal.

So close is the system of inspection that the reputation the management has established for its careful preparation is zealously maintained.



Tippie at No. 4 Mine

Best Type of Tippie Equipment

The latest type of tippie equipment has been installed by the Main Island Creek Coal Company and special attention is paid to careful preparation of "Main Island" coal.

The equipment at Mines Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 16, 17, 21 and 22, Proctor and No. 5 Block is such as enables the shipment of a carefully prepared and closely sized coal for steam and domestic use. The tipples are electrically equipped with conveyors, shaker screens, and picking tables with adjustable loading booms that can be dropped close to the bottom of the railroad cars and thus reduce breakage to a minimum.

Main Island Mine No. 4

It was over the fine, modern steel tippie of

Mine No. 4 that the Main Island Creek Coal Company made its first shipment of coal on the 5th of May, 1913, and it is this tippie that made the district record, and the West Virginia record for that matter, for loading 3,500 tons of coal in one day's run, every car coming direct from the working face of the tippie.

Scheme of Operation at No. 5 and No. 6 Tippie

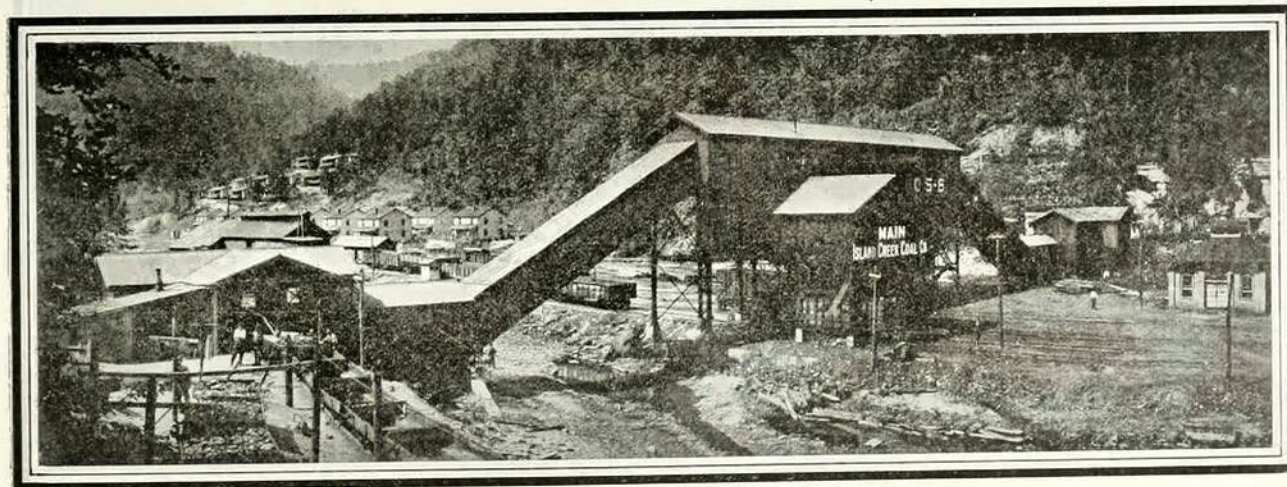
The double tippie that serves mines No. 5 and No. 6 is of steel construction and is one of the finest equipped in the district, having a guaranteed capacity of 5,000 tons daily.

As may be seen from the accompanying illustration, it is provided with four loading tracks and enjoys the distinction of having the highest car allotment of any tippie on the C. & O. system.

Run of mine coal is dumped from the mine cars into a steel and concrete receiving hopper, from which it is fed by an apron feeder over a short section of bar screen onto the 75 foot apron conveyors, which carry it to the picking tables. The slack coal passes through the bars to the conveyor, while the lump coal, passing over the bars, loads on top of the slack coal as it moves along the picking tables, which are formed by a section 30 feet in length of the discharge end of each conveyor. Excellent light is provided for the men at the picking tables and the most careful inspection is given for all impurities.

The coal is discharged from the conveyor to a set of tippie shaker screens, electrically operated, which separates the coal into slack, nut, egg and lump. Special adjustable loading booms are installed for loading the lump and egg onto the railroad cars, and three men are stationed on each car of egg to finally inspect and clean the coal and trim the cars. The nut and slack is usually combined at this tippie, making a high grade steam coal for mechanical stokers that is eagerly sought.

A refuse conveyor is installed for handling the impurities removed at the picking tables, while, if the occasion requires, this conveyor can be utilized for conveying egg coal to the bins from which the company's wagons supply the miners' homes and local demands.



Double Tippie at Mines Nos. 5 and 6

The apron conveyors move at a speed of 45 feet per minute, and at that speed can handle 150 tons of coal per hour, the two conveyors giving the plant ample equipment to handle the entire output of the mines as developed. Each conveyor is driven by a 20 H. P. motor through one belt and two spur gear transmissions, and drives being duplicates. The motors are controlled by automatic elevator control and provision is made for either stopping or start-

ing each conveyor separately from the picking floor or the car tender's platform.

Shaker Screens Installed

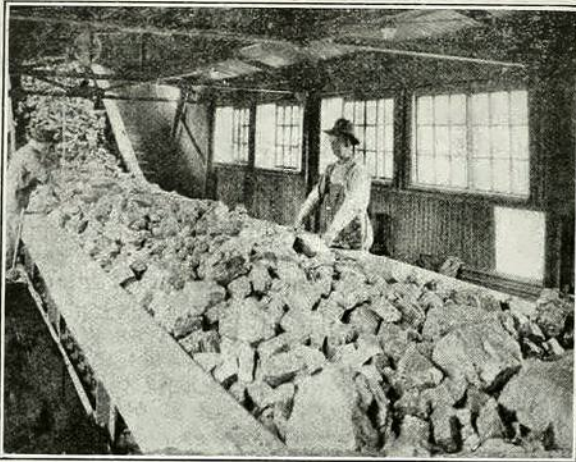
The shaker screens at the No. 5 and No. 6 tipple consist of two chute sections, each section being 6 feet wide and 24 feet long, provided with lower decks. The upper deck of the first chute is provided with a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch stepped screen plate having $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch holes, while the lower deck is plain with flys for passing the slack to the hopper. The second chute is provided with $\frac{3}{8}$ inch stepped screen plate having 3 inch and $3\frac{1}{4}$ inch holes, and a lower deck for egg coal. Special ends are provided for passing lump and egg to the loading booms.

The two chutes are counterbalanced and the reciprocating motion is imparted by 20 H. P. motors through one belt transmission to an eccentric shaft, and thence by eccentric rods and eccentrics to the screen chutes. The motor is a duplicate of the two which drive the apron conveyors, and is controlled by the automatic elevator control, provision being made for stopping or starting the screens from either the picking table or the car tender's platform.

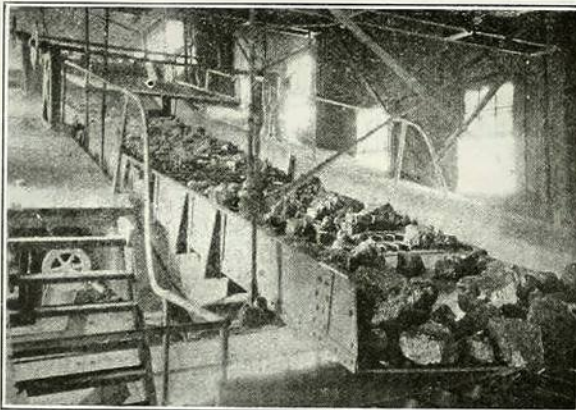
Six electric motors are installed for supplying the power necessary to operate this modernly equipped and electrically operated double tipple; they comprise three 20 H. P. motors; two $3\frac{1}{2}$ H. P. and one $7\frac{1}{2}$ H. P. Westinghouse Type S. K. motors wound for 250 volts D. C. This furnishes a combined horse power equal to 74 H. P. for the operation of the tipple, although the requirements of the machinery actually demand but 56 H. P. for its successful operation.

Capacity Loads—Careful Trimming.

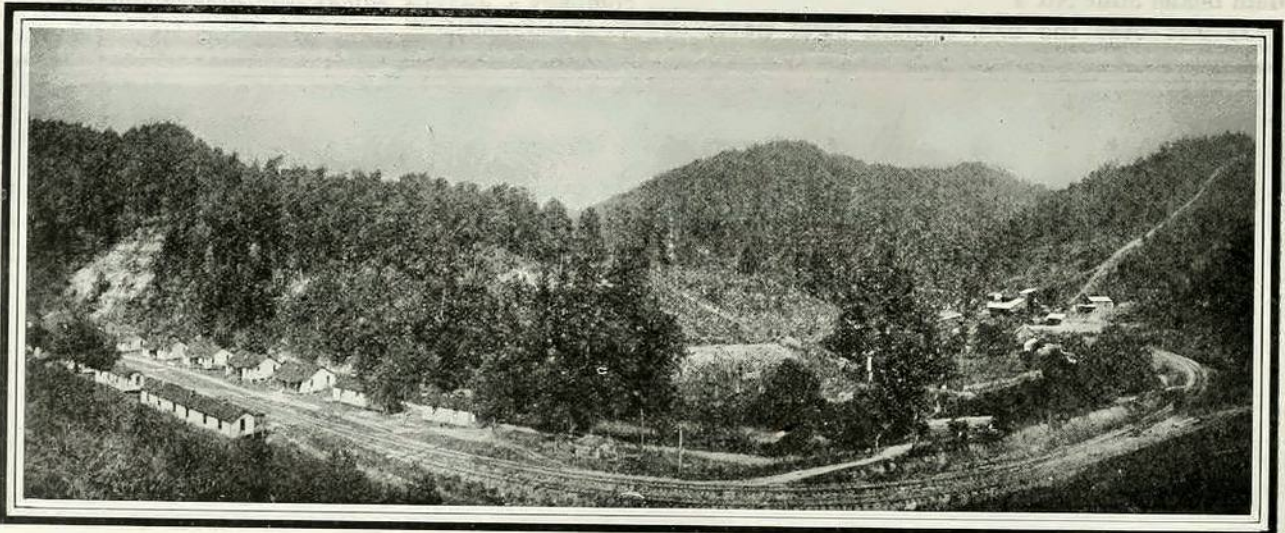
Tipple foremen at the 25 tipples owned and operated by the Main Island Creek Coal Company take more than customary pride in loading railroad cars to capacity and trimming them so that a "Main Island" car is easily distinguishable in a coal train from its less carefully loaded and trimmed associates. When one gets a 50 ton steel car from this colliery company one gets 50 tons of clean coal.



Block Coal Passing Over Picking Table



Lump Coal Passing Over Shaker Screen



View Showing No. 5 Operation.

Uses and Analysis of Main Island Coal

Seam Mined and Its Usages

The coal mined by the Main Island Creek Coal Company is from the Cedar Grove bed, known in the Logan field as the Island Creek seam. Coal from our mines is known to the trade as "Main Island Coal." It is a hard coal of excellent quality, as will be seen from its analysis.

The seam averages seven feet in thickness. This seam is practically free of slate and all kinds of impurities and foreign matter. Therefore, the run of mine coal is clean and pure, and is used extensively for steam and domestic purposes. The four-inch lump is unsurpassed as a domestic coal and enjoys a wide market in many states. The lumps are large and of strong structure, and do not break in handling. This grade is also well adapted to use in malleable foundries. The egg size is used especially by illuminating gas plants. Splendid results are obtained, because the coal is low in sulphur and ash, permitting a good yield of both gas and coke. The Egg coal, as well as the Run of Mine, is particularly adapted to use in glass plants, and a strong and growing demand in this respect is especially noticeable. The Nut and Slack coal, likewise, is free of impurities, and has a high B.t.u., and for these reasons excels as a stoker coal for manufacturing and other steam plants. The Cannel coal from the No. 3 mine is a fancy domestic coal especially pleasing to the fastidious. The Eagle coal, from the Proctor Eagle and Superior Eagle mines, is one of the best by-

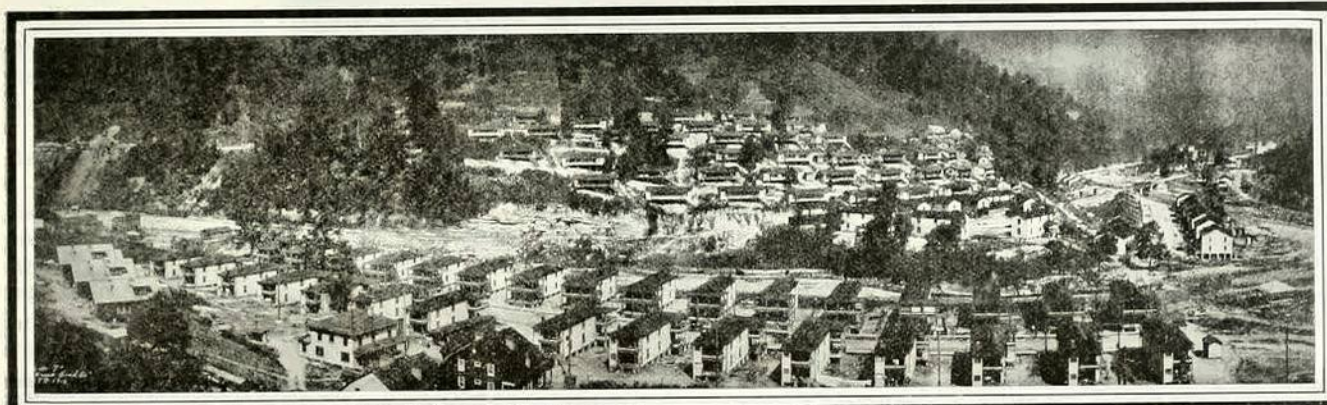
product coals obtainable, and is eagerly sought by plants developing the by-products of coal.

Most of the company's large production goes to markets in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and up the lakes. A considerable and increasing demand is had, however, in Virginia and the Carolinas, where the domestic grades are used. During the past year a great deal of this coal has been sold abroad, either through number five pool at Newport News, which calls for a high-volatile gas and by-product coal, or through pool number six, which calls for high-volatile steam coal. In addition to these pools, Main Island has a private pool at Newport News in which MAIN ISLAND coal can be assembled and loaded on vessels without losing its identity or being mixed with other coal.

Analysis of Main Island Coal

The average of nine analyses of Main Island Coal, as made by Froehling & Robertson, chemists, of Richmond, Va., is as follows:

	Per Cent.
Moisture	.99
Volatile Matter	36.88
Fixed Carbon	57.06
Ash	5.07
	100.00
Sulphur	1.009
B.t.u. (per pound of dry coal)	14,524
B.t.u. (per pound of coal as received) ..	14,384



Village at No. 7 Mine