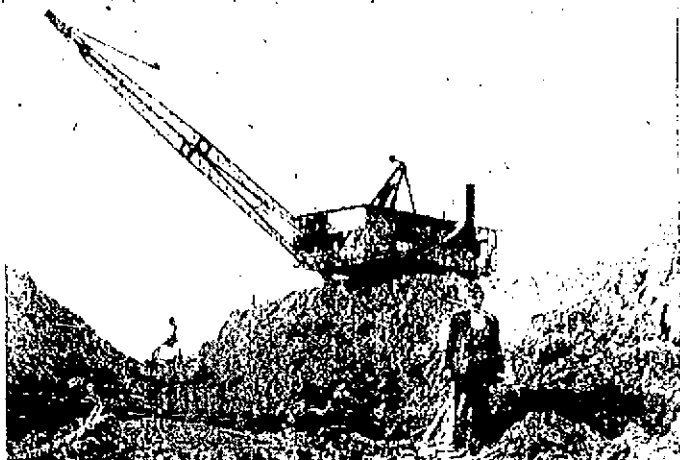
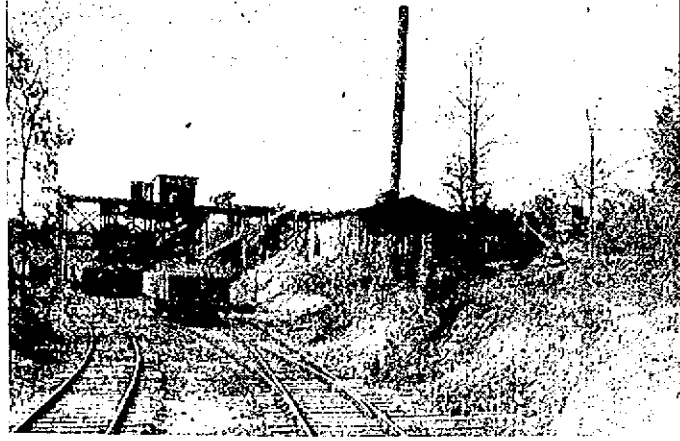


## Operation On Robinson Creek



—Photo by S. A. Mory, Sr.  
LILY-JELICO COAL CO. contracted with the Robinson Creek Construction Co. for this stripping operation about 1903. Coal mined here was hauled over a narrow gauge railroad to the old O. K. Tipple at Lily and loaded on railroad cars there. Frazier J., Oscar W. and Owen A. Maek, three brothers from Coal Creek, Tenn., formed the Lily-Jelico Coal Co. Shown in the picture is George Delaney. The operation was on Robinson creek, near the George and Sam Oiler places on the Spring Cut road.

## O. K. Lily Coal Tipple



—Photo by S. A. Mory, Sr.  
O. K. COAL COMPANY at Lily was organized by Jabe Crooke, cousin of Cash Crooke of the Altamont Coal Co., and built this tipple at the end of a half mile railroad spur up the east bank of Laurel river. After Crooke's death it became the property of Robt. Boyd and Joe A. Craft, with Jimmie Colbert as manager, who sold it to Judge Lyman Lewis Parks in Louisville. The mine was operated by G. W. Curvin and later by Karl F. Bernach Bros. of Louisville. Beginning 1904 the Black Bros.'s Lily-Jelico Coal Co. used the tipple.

## W. A. Moore Retains First Dollar Earned



W. A. (BILL) MOORE

W. A. (Bill) Moore is one of the fabulous fellows who has the first dollar he ever earned. This is not because Bill is a miser. It's just that he dropped his first dollar in a well and did not recover it until 33 years later.

But all this is beside the point except to emphasize the fact that Bill has had some interesting things to happen in his life. Bill was born in Jackson county at Mildred, on February 19, 1898, the son of J. T. and Adelia Bullock Moore. For the most part he was raised up on the farm and after finishing his education in the schools of Jackson county, started out making his own living working on a farm in Illinois. Then in the succession of years until 1932, when he came to London and started working for Kidd Bros. Grocery. Bill worked in paper mills, drove a taxi, and did more farming. He worked for Kidd Brothers for four years and then did a hitch as an employee of the Poynter Hardware Company.

In 1937, he went to work for the London Dry Goods Company and in the ensuing years has acted as their salesman covering 16 counties in southeastern Kentucky.

About 28 years ago Mr. Moore married Gladys Stewart of Olin, Jackson county, who is now part owner of the Laurel Dress Shop. He is a member of the First Baptist Church, a 32nd Degree Mason, member of the United Commercial Travelers and the Baghdad Gratto. For recreation Mr. Moore indulges in fishing and golfing.

Since Bill's first dollar was mentioned, it might be well at the close of this biography to mention a few more of the details to satisfy any interest that may have been generated. The first dollar incident came about when Bill was 13. He had just finished a job of cutting roads for the old Bond-Poley Lumber Company and had been given in return, a bright new silver dollar. While showing it off to his brother, it slipped from his hand and rolled through a crack in the Moore water well platform and clinked to the bottom 57 feet below.

Thirty-three years later when his father started to clean out the well, Bill offered him \$5.00 to find his dollar and after working three days at the job, the coin was finally found and returned. This is why Bill Moore has his first dollar—otherwise he would have spent it for candy many a long year ago.

## Laurel County's First Commercial Coal Mine

Laurel county's first commercial coal mine of record was known as the John Dennison Mine, on the west side of U. S. 25, opposite the home of Phil Wilson. It was mentioned in a 1826 deed as furnishing "stone blacksmith coal" and being 26 inches thick, we are told by County Surveyor J. H. Graham.

In 1903 mine run coal was being delivered to London at 4 cents a bushel, \$1.00 per load of 25 bushel, or ton.



—Photo Supplied by Gilmore Archer  
GRADING FOR NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD, 1904, From O. K. Tipple at Lily to Lily-Jelico Coal Co. steam shovel operation on Robinson creek. Standing with one foot on wagon bed and other on wheel in front of two men in background, is Albert Archer, father of Gilmore Archer. Tentatively identified are James Dewese standing on wagon bed, second from left; Ned Hopkins, fourth in front row with right hand on horse; and Jeff Hopkins sixth in front row with mustache.

## Laurel Mines Now In Operation

The following is a list of present coal operators in Laurel county, furnished by A. D. Slak, chief mine inspector of the Department of Mines and Minerals. At least all are licensed to operate. The Goode Mining Co. is temporarily out of operation.

In the list is given: Name of mine, name of operator, location of mine, and number of employees, in that order. There is a total of 23 licensed operators, with 176 employees.

Baker Coal Co., Pleas Baker, Bernstadt, 2.  
Wright, Laurel River, 3.  
Big Seam Coal Co., C. M. Bill Coal Co., J. L. Bill, London, 2.  
Bullock Coal Co., John Bullock, Pittsburg, 3.  
Callihan & Callihan Coal Co., Tom Callihan, Raceon Creek, 5.  
Tom English Coal Co., Tom English, E. Bernstadt, 5.  
Frederick Coal Co., Emmett Frederick, London, 3.  
Goode Mining Co., Mattie Goode, London, worked out, 26.  
House and Robbins Coal Co., Cloyd House, E. Bernstadt, 3.  
Laurel Branch Coal Co., Inc. James M. Daniel, Hazel Patch, 8.  
A. J. Leach Coal Co., A. J. Leach, London, 2.  
E. Lederman Coal Co., E. Lederman, Bernstadt, 1.  
Wes Lee Coal Co., Wes Lee, E.

Bernstadt, 3.  
Meadows and Cullins Coal Co., Joe Meadows, London, 12.  
Margin Coal Co., J. R. Kilgore, London, 20.  
Miller and Whitaker Coal Co., Sam Miller, Pittsburg, 8.  
L. A. Moore Coal Co., L. A. Moore, E. Bernstadt, 2.  
Pine Creek Coal Co., E. A. Miller, London, 30.  
Rockcastle River Coal Co., Gusta Carr, E. Bernstadt, 4.  
Elmer Rysor Coal Co., Elmer Rysor, E. Bernstadt, 6.  
Sky Top Coal Co., E. J. Worley, Pittsburg, 12.  
Trace Branch Coal Co., George Cosmah, London, 17.  
Oakley Tuttle Coal Co., Oakley Tuttle, London, 2.  
\* Strip Mines.

## Said The Echo—

In 1882:  
July 7: Various tipples and tracks are about completed at Peacock postoffice and Pitman Station. C. D. Anderson here on business for Peacock.  
Feb. 2, 1883: L. D. Parker was postmaster at Peacock. Black Diamond Coal Co. was incorporated. East Bernstadt was a station on the L. & N.  
Oct. 12: Pittsburg and Altamont miners were on strike, demanding raise from 3 cents per bushel of 80 pounds to 3½ cents for 76 pounds.

THE SENTINEL-ECHO M3  
Diamond Jubilee Edition 1954



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**Happy Returns**  
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As Americans, we are free to think, choose and act for ourselves. But, unless we also have the right to know the truth, these precious freedoms would immediately become meaningless and soon disappear. The right to know is fundamental to democracy. It is guaranteed by the First Article of the Bill of Rights which guarantees Freedom of the Press which, in turn, means freedom of the people to know all the facts. It is the basic freedom upon which all other other freedoms depend. Knowing for 75 years that the Dyche Family, as publishers, have defended and promoted the elements of freedom through their newspapers, we are happy at this time to offer congratulations.

## The New Laurel Coal Co. Store



One of the last coal company stores to operate in Pittsburg was the New Laurel, where Joseph's Grocery store is now. Shown are J. P. (Doc) Foster, store manager; D. L. (Dick) young, postmaster and clerk; Lee Mitchell, bookkeeper; Roy Taylor, Tommie Live, and in wagon John Maxey, behind Kate and Mike.

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