

shut down. Since that time the Newcastle Mine has been operated with this 15% increase in wages which has been very burdensome. The company yielding to this demand inspired the miners with the idea that any future demand would be acceded to. They have in consequence made several demands upon us subsequently, one for a reduction of hours of labor for carpenters from ten to nine hours at the same rate of wages, which was acceded to. Another, that the method of counting, by which we ascertained the cash balance due to each man each night, should be changed. This we declined to do. They afterwards demanded that any coal lost between the breast where it was mined and the bunker, should be paid for by the Company. The basis of pay in this particular was the coal received at the Bunker. As there is occasionally a car turned over or broken in transit, this amount is quite a considerable item. We also declined to accede to this demand. The agitation among the miners caused a feeling of discontent on account of our refusal in these particulars, which culminated finally about two week ago in the demand that all non-union men be prohibited from working. We reached our limit of forbearance on this.

There were about 25 good non-union men in the mine. After consulting with them they agreed to stand by the Company under any circumstances. We arranged for an additional supply of non-union men to be on hand and as soon as we were satisfied we could control the situation we notified the knights of labor who had made the demand for the discharge of non-union men, that we would not only not comply with their demand but we should in future reserve the right to hire and discharge whom we pleased, a right which they had previously denied us. They threatened to strike, upon which we discharged 60 of the worst agitators and the most turbulent people connected with the mine, replacing them with non-union men, making altogether about 85 non-union men against about 175 knights of labor. As the leaders were discharged, however, the balance of the knights of labor fell in line with us without difficulty and I now believe we have control of the property and will be able to maintain it. We did not do this without arranging a basis upon which we would work for the future. This basis is, that upon the 1st of April the miners will accept a reduction of 15%, placing the wages back to the amount they were prior to September 1, 1890. They will also work ten hours per day instead of nine as heretofore, making a reduction on this account of 10% and they will also make contract with us by the year at the stated wages which will do away with the fear we have always had of strikes and agitation in the mines at periods when our heavy work compels us either to have a strike or accede to their demands. I might possibly have arranged the period for this reduction and contract work to take effect earlier than April first, but did not think it expedient or good policy to do so as the period between now and April first will be occupied to a considerable extent in ridding ourselves of some of the undesirable element that is still connected with the mine, and we could not do this and reduce the wages at the same time without having a good deal of popular outcry and sympathy shown to the discharged men. With the reduced wages in the Newcastle mine and the contract system at work, if we can now proceed to get Negro labor in the Franklin mine at an early period I consider that the reductions we will be able to make in the two mines will give us an additional net earnings over the prices heretofore paid of not less than \$125,000 per annum, and I consider

this a conservative amount. This reduction, however, is by no means the strongest feature in this matter, as I consider the actual control of the property by us and our ability to hire and discharge whom we please will produce a very much greater efficiency in working the mines hereafter than has ever been enjoyed by the Company, and we can have some feeling of comfort in doing business with our laboring classes.

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COAL OUTPUT

The State's Product is 1,722,653 Tons

King County Leads

Her Yield This Year Is No Less Than 498,018 Tons

A Net Gain of 106,835 Tons

The state increases her yield by 571,726 tons. The surprising product of the Roslyn and Kittitas Mines - Output of the Bucoda and Pierce Companies - A new mine at Centralia - The total value of the Washington Output is nearly \$7,000,000 - The extensive bunkers at Seattle - shipments to Australia, California and Honolulu.

The coal mines of Western Washington have for 1890 increased their product by over half a million tons. The total product of all the mines had been obtained after considerable effort. The figures in all instances are obtained from the most reliable sources, usually direct from the manager of the respective company.

King county this year as usual leads in the product. Her total output is 498,018 tons, as against 391,183 tons last year, which is an increase of 106,835 tons. The Roslyn or Kittitas county mines follow next with 450,659 tons, as against 238,431 tons in 1889. This is an increase of 212,228 tons, and almost double the product.

Thurston county has also done well. Last year the Bucoda mines made an output of 266,399 tons, while this year their product is 399,000 tons. Pierce county's yield in 1889 was 255,313 tons, while this year it was 384,976. All things considered, the mines have made an extremely creditable showing. The total increase of the product of 1890 over 1889 is exactly 571,726 tons, and the total product of all the mines is 1,722,653 tons.

The King County Mines

The Product Largely Increased During the Present Year

King county mines have made a good showing this. Several of the properties only got fairly started in 1889. Their output was 391,183 tons, while at Pierce county mines were 255,313, and the Roslyn mines 238,431. The corresponding output for 1889, is clearly set forth in connection with the table showing the product for this year:

	1889	1890
Franklin	113,927	130,189
Newcastle	87,825	73,545
Gilman	55,362	67,820
Black Diamond	97,744	172,320
Durham	22,319	31,697
Cedar River	14,406	22,547
Totals	391,183	498,018