

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

July 10, 1925

Eighteen miners of the Odgers Mine working two shifts in 23 days drove an 8' x 8' drift through solid rock for a distance of 519' last month. Their work included in addition to the breaking and removal of the rock, the laying of a permanent track, installation of a 4" air line, $\frac{3}{4}$ " water line and a 16" ventilation duct. The record surpasses the 511' effort put forth by miners at the Barns-Hecker Mine in Ishpeming. Officials of the McKinney Steel Company, owners of the Odgers mine, had high praise for the crew lead by G.E. Harrison (General Superintendent), E.J. Oswald (Superintendent), L.J. Butler (Captain), Jack Ham (Shift Boss) and Victor Johnson (Shift Boss).

A fire at the Great Western mine destroyed the engine house, boiler house and other remaining buildings. The buildings have been unoccupied since suspension of mining operations in 1910. Shipment from the 300,000 ton stockpile has been sporadic since then with a total of 2.3 million tons of ore shipped. The Great Western (aka Iron Star) was opened in 1882 and was one of the top producing mines in the early years mining in Iron County.