

foreman of any coal mine to employ more than twenty persons within said coal mine, or permit more than twenty persons to be employed therein at any one time, unless they are in communication with at least two available openings to the surface from each seam or stratum of coal worked in such mine exclusive of the furnace upcast; but provided, that in any mine operated by a shaft or slope and ventilated by fan, if the air shaft shall be divided into two compartments, one of them may be used for an airway and the other for the purpose of egress and ingress from and into said mine by the persons therein employed, and the same shall be considered a compliance with the provisions of this section hereinbefore set forth. And there shall be cut out or around the side of every hoisting shaft, or driven through the solid strata at the bottom thereof, a traveling way not less than five feet high and three feet wide, to enable persons to pass the shaft in going from one side of it to the other without passing over or under the cage or other hoisting apparatus. The Mine Inspector may, upon application, if he deem it necessary, grant a period of time not exceeding eighteen months in which the operator shall provide the second opening, under such terms as the inspector shall prescribe, and the second opening required may be through an adjoining mine if the way thereto and the opening itself be kept and maintained in proper condition.

CHAP. 124.
Number of
persons
employed.

To have two
openings.

Section 209 B of Article 1 and Section 164 A of Article 12. The shaft or outlet, other than the main shaft or outlet, shall be separated from the main outlet and from the furnace shaft by a natural strata at all points by a distance of not less than one hundred and fifty feet (except in all mines opened prior to June 30, 1901, where such distance may be less, if, in the judgment of the inspector one hundred and fifty feet is impracticable). If the mine be worked by drift two openings, exclusive of the furnace upcast shaft, and not less than thirty feet apart shall be required. Where the two openings shall not have been provided as required hereinbefore by this Act, the Mine Inspector shall cause the second to be made without delay; and in no case shall furnace ventilation be used where there is only one opening into the mine.

Shaft to be
separated
from main
outlet, etc.

PASSAGES REQUIRED.

Section 209 c of Article 1 and Section 164 B of Article 12. Unless the Mine Inspector shall deem it impracticable, all mines shall have at least two entries or other passageways, one of which shall lead from the main entrance and the other from the other opening into the body of the mine, and said two passageways shall be kept well drained and in a safe condition for persons to travel therein throughout the whole length, so

Passages
Required.