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U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Hello Your Honor,

I wrote you a letter last week (I think) anyway I was going thru some old papers and pictures and came across this picture of old mine workers. It was located near Percy, IL but was gone before I grew up. I am 83 and I don't remember even seeing it. However my Dad's grand father was Andrew Soper who is in the picture. His wife, my great-grandma lived to way up in her 90's and I loved to visit her. She always had a smile on her face altho she was bed ridden many, many years. One of her daughters and her husband who was a minister cared for her.

I honestly don't know what to write about what is going on with the case that you are the judge. I just don't understand why some one wanted to buy ~~our~~ our health care and pension or better ~~for~~ how it could be for sale and no one could do anything about it.

I guess that's why the Lord chose me to be a housewife and Mother. We had hard times thru strikes - no work and 4 little kids to care for. We spent a lot of time in prayer and made it. My husband loved working at the mine - he worked 14 yrs underground and the rest at a strip mine. A total of I think 60 yrs.

Our children all live away - no jobs around here. Daughter Peggy family live in Macon, IL Son Frank & family live in Lenexa, Kan, Son Rex and wife live closest, 15 miles from me and daughter Jaci & husband live in Glencoe, IL - we have 9 grandchildren and 15 great-grand (3 sets of twins) but they too all live away from N. IL to Mo., Mich., D.C. & N. Carolina. When I was growing up most of our Aunts, uncles & cousins lived within walking distance in Percy. It's a whole different world.

Well, I didn't mean to ramble on so long - I just wanted to contact you, tell you I don't understand this problem. Thankful you are on the case and praying for you and all you have to go thru to make your decision. Sincerely,
Betty Brown

The picture is yours to keep - I don't have anyone who would want it. If you do and don't want it, give it to them. Sorry this is so messy - just having a bad day 😊

June 12, 2003

County Journal



Barnard Mine

The picture above was taken in 1904 and is at the Barnard Mine which was located near where the Percy Tee is today. Note the oil lamps on the miners' caps and old lunch pails. This photo was provided by Don Eaton of Steeleville. The Barnard mine shaft was sunk in 1872 and the mine closed in 1920. Miners were paid \$2.50 to \$4 for an eight-hour day. Maybe one of these men is a relative of yours. Front row from left, Ed Carter, John Watkins, Huey Courtney, Ed Martin, Ed Meyers, Jim Hardy, Bill Firth, Billie Smith, Sam Howie, Clarence Higgerson. Second row, Ed Barwell, Amos King, C. Cryder, J.L. Brown, Alonzo Higgerson, Vest Bagwell, Challie Stevenson, Billie Stevenson, Ben Soper, Tom Firth, Albert Carter, Vern Hamilton, Charles Fulton, Jack Mouton, Bill Deveney. Third row, Andrew Soper, John Rednour, John Soper, Tom Keene, unknown, Henry Higgerson, Oliver Cunningham, James Eaton, James Wasson, Joe Kageley, Ike Stout, Rube Soper, Doc McClelland, Tinker Rogers, Jabas Brown. Fourth row, Joe Hardy, Tom Hardy, August Bruns, Ed Wilson, Bill Sprague, Sam Weeden, Alph Taylor, John Stevenson, Art Stevenson, Charlie Stevenson, Bob Stevenson, Bush Helvy, Johnnie McClure, Brice Richmond, Art Rednour. Back row, Jim Little, Curtis Soper and Henry Brown.

Mrs. Betty Brown
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The Hon. Kathy A. Surratt-States

Re: Case No. 12-51502

Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse

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