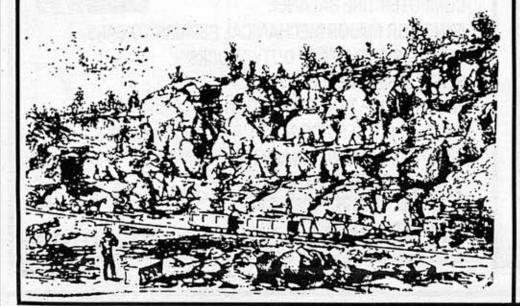
Coal Discovered In Maries County

Era", Maries County residents were abuzz about the discovery of coal in a close proximity to

reprinted from the "Maries County Gazette", stated: "From looked like coal, and upon Mr. Jos. Wilson, who came in from the western part of the found the vein cropping out of county Tuesday evening, we the bank of the Maries. It seems

the Maries 8 or 9 miles west of the discovery accidentally, hav-The report, which had been ing carelessly picked up several chunks of something that investigating a little further

According to the August learn that a vein of coal was to be a good quality of cannel 21st edition of the "Rolla New recently discovered on the old coal, having been tested in a recently discovered on the old coal, having been tested in a Isaac Helton place, situated on forge, though how thick the vein is we could not learn. It is this place. Mart Helton made said that some experienced miners have been to examine the discovery, and that they desire to lease the land. We hope the right parties may get control and proceed to develop the find."



Swinging Bridge'

by Gary Knehans



Motorists who yearn for a new experience in driving may want to plan a trip across the "Swinging Bridge" near Vienna. It's sure to be a "moving" experience, as the old suspension bridge definitely swings each time it is driven across.

Located two miles west of Vienna on Ballpark Road, the bridge is one of only a few such structures still in use in the state. It was constructed in 1930 by local farmers who needed a more dependable way to ford the Big Maries River. There is one span of about 200 feet.

which is suspended by wire cables and supported by wooden planking. The wooden planks and other parts were supplied by the farmers who constructed the bridge. The cable was supplied by the county court.

Despite the eerie sensation one might experience while motoring over the bridge, it is considered safe, although its record was marred by an incident more than twenty years ago. In January of 1968, Mrs. Jim McKinney was crossing the structure when one of the end

piers gave way, dropping he car into the river. Fortunately, the river was very low, allowing Mrs. McKinney and her five children to escape the vehicle by kicking out its rear window. None of the six sustained any injuries.

Since its subsequent repair, the structure continues to be traveled by motorists, who have the option during low water to cross the Big Maries on a slab bridge. The "Swinging Bridge" did come in handy in May of this year when flood waters made the river impassible over the slab bridge.

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