

Nova Scotia Notes

The Bonar Head Colliery of the Dominion Coal Co.

The Dominion Coal Company announces that its engineers are surveying the route for the branch line from the Canadian National Railway to Bonar Head which is projected to give access to the site of the proposed new undersea colliery at that place. The completion of this railway is a necessary preliminary to the commencement of any heavy construction work or shaft sinking. As the Winter has now set in, the construction of the new branch railway is not likely to be undertaken until the Spring.

It is understood that the plans of the Dominion Coal Company's engineers contemplate the sinking of a shaft to the Sydney Main Seam, presumably as near to the coastline as seems advisable, and then driving out seawards to intersect the undersea continuation of the Main Seam by two cross-measure, or "stone" tunnels having a slight inclination in favour of the load. If the Dominion Company contemplates the extraction of coal to the maximum seaward extension of its leased areas, it will be necessary that the size of the shaft and tunnel openings shall be unusually capacious, and the construction work of very permanent and therefore quite costly character. The thickness and quality of the coal seams in the vicinity of the proposed new opening are not definitely known, and the character of the seams in the undersea area are necessarily a matter of conjecture, as no opening has yet been made upon this virgin territory.

The extent to which the Dominion Company will develop the undersea leases in the vicinity of Bonar Head will naturally depend upon the thickness and quality of the Sydney Main Seam and the other seams overlying and underlying it, so that it seems unlikely that the full programme of development announced in the newspapers will be undertaken until more is known of the physical characteristics of the coal in the undersea area. As the coal leases to the coastal barrier are held by the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co., the site of the new colliery will overlie the leased coal of the Scotia Company, and the permission of the Scotia Company will be required before the work of sinking the shaft and driving the tunnels is undertaken. This, however, is purely a formal matter, the procedure for which is prescribed by the Mines Act, and it is not to be expected that any difficulty will arise in this particular.

In view, therefore, of the necessity to build the branch railway, of the advisability of thoroly testing the character of the coal seams in the Bonar Point area before committing itself to a very large capital expenditure, it seems probable that much preliminary work will require to be done before any appreciable output of coal is secured from the undersea leases in this neighbourhood. The officials of the Dominion Company state that at least twelve months will elapse before coal is shipped from the projected colliery.

The Dominion Coal Company has requested permission from the Department of Immigration, which it is understood has been given, to bring in a number of miners from Belgium, France and Italy, to replace the men who went home to fight in 1914. In August and September of that year, some 800 miners answered the mobilization call and returned to Europe, including a number of British reservists. While the num-

ber of men on the Coal Company's payroll is of course much less than it was at the time of maximum outputs in the early portion of the war period, the deficiency is almost altogether in the men employed in producing coal at the face, a condition that more than anything else tends to high costs of production and restricted outputs.

Dominion Coal Outputs.

The production of the collieries of the Dominion Coal Company during September and October was as under:

Colliery.	September.	October.
1	21,733	29,378
2	47,679	53,388
4	26,234	28,462
5	5,984	7,050
6	18,284	19,420
9	21,909	25,202
10	9,005	11,587
11	14,139	14,869
12	15,674	16,265
14	14,872	18,510
15	10,328	12,892
16	12,609	14,834
21	11,670	13,247
22	12,508	15,411
	242,628	280,615
Springhill No. 2	33,599	34,410
Springhill No. 6	1,232	1,491
	34,831	35,901
Total	277,459	316,516

The Managers of the Dominion Collieries.

As a large number of changes have recently taken place in the positions of manager at the Cape Breton collieries of the Dominion Coal Company, the following list of the managers of the individual collieries, as the present time, may be of interest.

1.....	John Monroe.	A. D. Matheson, Ass.
2.....	P. T. Prendergast.	
4.....	John Casey.	
5.....	W. G. Ross.	
6.....	W. T. Chew.	
9.....	D. J. McCuish.	
10.....	Thomas McDonald.	
11.....	N. A. McDonald.	
12.....	A. R. McDonald.	
14.....	H. A. MacLeod.	
15.....	W. D. Haley.	
16.....	James Connors.	
17.....	John P. McIntyre.	
21.....	John McIntosh.	
22.....	Robert Simpson.	
24.....	James Moseley.	

Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company's Production.

The output of the Scotia collieries during September and October 1919, and the corresponding production in 1918, is as under:—

	1919		1918	
	September	October	September	October
Princess	14,485	15,320	10,520	10,601
Florence	20,239	21,913	11,962	14,327
Scotia	7,926	8,184	7,287	7,002
Jubilee	9,708	11,090	10,182	11,516
	52,358	56,507	39,941	43,446