

or are being installed, however, and it is expected that a permanent tippie, for which plans have been prepared, will be put in shortly.

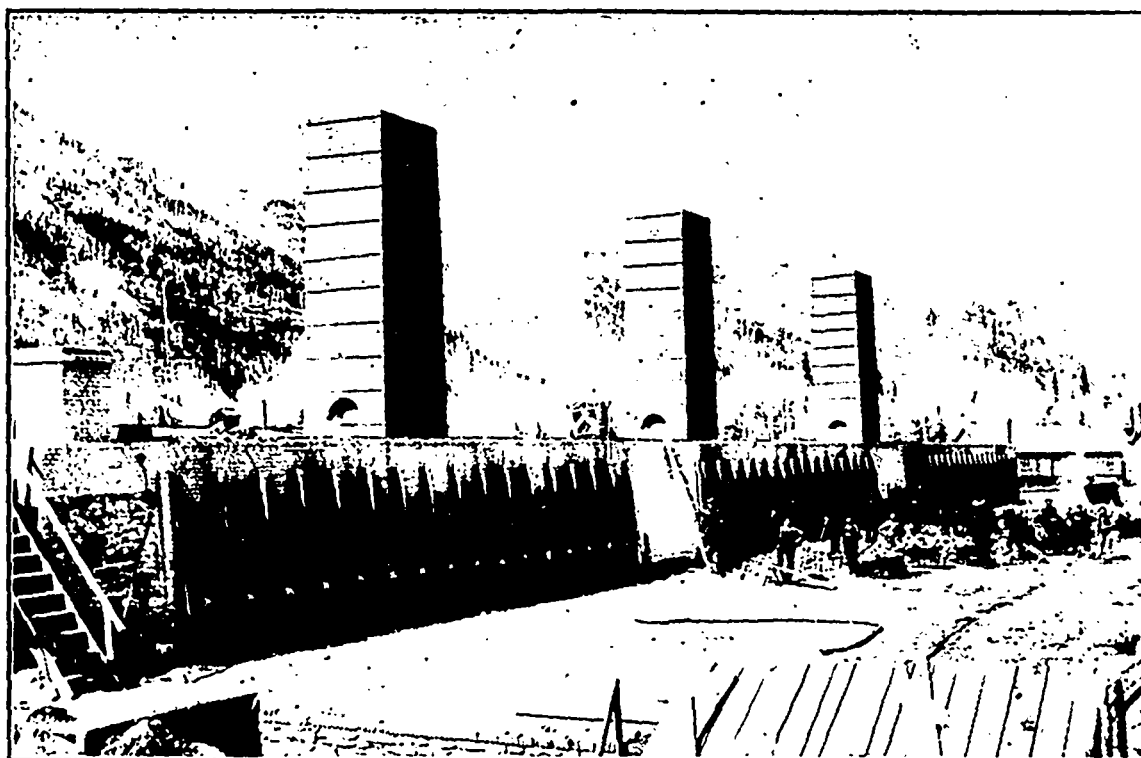
Two seams of coal have been opened by means of a cross-cut tunnel. They are known as seams Nos. 1 and 2, and coal of a good quality is being produced at the rate of 250 tons a day. Systematic surface prospecting has exposed four other seams underlying the seams now being worked. The thickness of the various seams is as follows: No. 1, 12 ft.; No. 2, 12 ft.; No. 3,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft.; No. 4, 15 ft.; No. 5, 4 ft.; and No. 6,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft.

The Byron Creek property lies about four miles south of Bellevue. Two seams have been opened by

Considerable coal has been taken from these seams, and it was found to be of particularly fine quality.

In addition to the properties above mentioned, the company owns several other areas of coal lands, notably on the South Fork of Crow's Nest River and in the neighbourhood of Taillon Peak, but no work has as yet been done on these outlying areas.

The coal land laws of the United States were extended to Alaska by act of Congress approved June 6, 1900. A single individual, who must be twenty-one years of age and a citizen of the United States (or have declared his intention to become such)



West Canadian Collieries, Ltd.—Front View of Battery of 50 Belgian Coke Ovens, Bernard Type, at Lille Colliery.

separate drifts and a great deal of surface work has been done, exposing number of good seams. At present the property is reached by wagon road, but surveys have been completed for a branch line of railroad from the C. P. R. at Bellevue to the mine, and should it be decided to build the road at any time, the Byron Creek property could be made to yield a large output in a short time. There are known to be five seams on the property, all of good thickness, and one shows 40 ft. of coal, but has a rock parting in the middle.

At Blairmore, where the head office of the company in Alberta is located, the company owns coal lands on both sides of the railroad. The measures cross the valley under the townsite. Much prospecting work has been done, which shows there are at least five seams on the property, all of workable size and good quality of coal. A tunnel driven on the north side cuts two seams, one 5 and the other 12 ft. in thickness.

may locate 160 acres of coal land in one tract and no more. He can take but one claim. An association of persons may locate 320 acres in one claim and no more. An individual or association having improved a tract of coal land to the extent of \$5,000 may locate and enter a tract of 640 acres, including such mining improvements. No person or association of person is permitted to sell, or bargain to sell, the coal lands he may locate to another person or association until he shall have paid for the same and received a deed from the government. It is to avoid this sort of thing, which has been practised in timber land locations, that the laws are so definite as to the requisite acts to obtain title to coal and forest lands. After having paid for the lands claimed, and having received a patent or deed thereto from the government, the owner may dispose of the land in any way he sees fit, but he is not permitted to again make a location, having exhausted his right.