

Special Correspondence

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

British Columbia Coal Production in June.

While the output of the coal mines of British Columbia for the month of June was not altogether satisfactory, it is gratifying to note that the Cassidy Collieries, Granby Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, Vancouver Island, materially increased its output. The mines of the Crows Nest Pass of course made no production because of the strike, which has been in progress there for some time. It is expected that the Island coal mines will increase their output with the return to five full working days a week. The mines of the Western Canadian Fuel Company, The Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir) Limited, and the Nanoose Collieries, have of late been working on what is known as slack time, about three days a week, but recently this has been extended.

The output for June in detail follows:

Vancouver Island Coal Production, June, 1919.

	Tons.
Western Fuel Company, Nanaimo Colliery ..	36,747
Canadian Collieries, Comox Colliery	35,357
Canadian Collieries, Extension Colliery	15,157
Canadian Collieries, South Wellington Coll.	5,124
Pacific Coast Coal Mines, Morden Colliery..	5,516
British Columbia C. M. C., East Wellington (Jinglepot)	3,420
Nanoose Collieries	1,412
Granby C. M. S. & P. Co., Cassidy	10,572
	113,305

Nicola-Princeton District.

Middlesboro Collieries	6,091
Fleming Coal Company	2,963
Merritt Colliery	266
Coalmont	1,400
Princeton Colliery	1,184
	11,904

Northern District.

Telkwa Colliery	158
-----------------------	-----

Crow's Nest Pass District.

Nil	
Total	125,367

Victoria, B.C.

Privy Council Decide Foreshore Coal is Property of Province.

The Privy Council has upheld the judgment of Canadian courts that the coal lying under the foreshore within the Esquimault and Nanaimo Railway belt is the property of the province. The E. & N. Railway Company, it will be recalled, laid claim not only to all the coal within the railway belt proper, but all that might be found under foreshore lands. Their title was contested by H. W. Treat of Seattle, Washington, who has staked some foreshore near Chemainus and was proceeding under Provincial license to do some boring with the intention of developing the coal should it prove to be in sufficient quantity. When the Railway Company questioned his right and took the matter to the Court Mr. Treat was successful. The case, however, was appealed, but now with the Privy Council on record there is no further question of the validity of his claim.

Following the publication of this result mining men are interested in the development of the coal leases at Oyster Bay and other points in the neighborhood of Chemainus. Mr. Treat is reported to have run through coal at Chemainus in two drilling positions. It has been established that there are large coal beds in this section, but whether they are available for commercial development remains to be established. It is understood that Mr. Treat and his associates propose to continue with their work, being confident that this foreshore coal can be mined at a profit.

Anyox, B. C.

When the Honorable William Sloan, Minister of Mines for British Columbia, was at Anyox recently, he was particularly interested in the new by-product coking ovens recently installed by the Granby Consolidated Mining Smelting and Power Company and the operation of which commenced some weeks ago. He said that the coal from the Cassidy Collieries, Vancouver Island, was producing the desired quality of coke and that while facilities for utilization of all by-products were not yet available, pipes were being laid which would permit the use of the gas and result in a considerable saving of fuel. The coal tar is being stored and will be marketed at various Northwest points for use in the manufacture of creosote. The benzol plant is fast being completed and will be the most up-to-date of its kind on the Pacific Coast. There are seventeen other by-products to be manufactured including ammonia, tri-nitro-toluol, toluol and dyes. Thirty ovens, each with a capacity of more than ten tons, are now making coke.

Fernie, B. C.

The situation developing as a result of the strike of coal miners in District 18, U.M.W. of A. (Eastern British Columbia and the Province of Alberta) has reached a stage of open conflict between the International Union and the One Big Union. It would appear that the men in the Crows Nest Pass field at least are willing to return to work and are anxious that an agreement should be negotiated with the mine owners. The latter, however, take a strong position against the One Big Union. They state that they are willing to come to a settlement with the men through the United Mine Workers of America but will have no "truck or trade" with the O.B.U.

That it is open war between these two organizations now is quite clear and it would seem that the men will be forced to make a choice. Recently the charter of District 18 of the United Mine Workers of America was revoked, an official statement to that effect being made from Calgary by International representatives Samuel Ballantyne, Samuel Caddy and William Dalrymple. This has put eight thousand miners who have been on strike in Alberta and British Columbia since May 24th outside the pale of the International Union. The International representatives mentioned wired the result of their inquiries into the Western Canadian situation to John L. Lewis, International President of the U.M.W. of A., as follows:

"Completed investigation today find District President is member of dual organization. Showed Committee his membership card (O.B.U.) Vice-President and Secretary Treasurer also lined up in favor of dual organization. We would advise that District charter be suspended at once. Awaiting early reply."