

Around the Collieries.

posed all workers should have been doing their best, be taken as a basis, the coal producers did not work five days a week. In the table for a recent year the average days worked per month is 19, equal to 228 days in the year or four and two-fifth day per week. Mr. Baxter's proposal will not tend to increased employment of returned men, nor will it do anything but take money out of the pockets of those presently employed.

I have a letter from a C. B. Liberal in which he says that Sir Robert Borden's backbone is of the proper consistency. When our correspondent wrote several members of his party in parliament had not asked Sir Robert to exercise a little leniency with the Winnipeg postal strikers, and of course had not read Sir Robert's stern refusal, and the reasons for such refusal. Had he read this he would have added that certain liberal leaders had no backbone, and did not realize what true Liberalism stood for. As some of the Liberal papers are seemingly at sea as to what true Liberalism stands for I shall give an exposition culled from the pages of a staunch British Liberal paper. Of course liberalism in Britain is of a different brand than is common to Canada. Canadian liberalism is not what may be called distinctive; it is half this and half that, and at times half the other thing:—

"Liberalism must evolve a definite and distinctive Economic Policy. Liberalism has to stand for the supremacy of the communal interest in Industry. Toryism stands for the rights of the capitalist; Labour stands for the rights of the worker. Liberalism has to stand for the rights of the public. The coal industry, for example, does not exist either for the sake of the magnates who want unfettered control and unlimited dividends or for the sake of the miners who want to eliminate the private monopolist in their own economic interests. Liberalism has to define its position in two directions—(1) as against the people who regard an industry as the private "property" of the folks who put their money into it—(2) as against the people who regard an industry as the private "property" of the folks who put labour into it. The former section would subordinate the Government of the country to "Big Business," while the latter would create a State whose chief function would be to mediate between contending Trades Unions. On these matters the Tories, the Socialists, and the Syndicalists have all a more or less defined attitude and policy, while Liberal thought is not so much fluid as chaotic."

In connection with the future use of oil on the ocean, it is of interest to note that the Emergency Fleet Corporation's program calls for a total of 1,300 cargo-carrying vessels equipped to burn oil. And in this connection it can be said that the broad adoption of fuel oil buyers by the U. S. Shipping Board was the outcome of prolonged observations as to the trend in other maritime nations.

Many coal men who do not fear that fuel oil will ever be a dangerous competitor of coal on land, except in the Southern States and along the Pacific coast, admit that it will play a much larger part in ocean transportation from now on than it has in the past.—Saward.

Dom. No. 12 colliery is gradually increasing its output; 800 tons being hoisted one day recently.

Manager J. McIntyre, of Dom. No. 10, is relieving Manager John Munroe of Dominion No. 1, who is off resting.

Nothing daunted by his defeat, Mr. Byrne "wrote" at the yearly mining examinations. Mick is bound to know all about the mining profession.

When the new turbine being installed at Dom. No. 2 is complete there should be no more heard of want of power and hence no broken time from this cause.

John Moffatt spent a few days in Springhill recently, in connection with P. W. A. property there. Pioneer Hall saw many hard battles during its lifetime, and is much the worse of the wear.

A new electric turbine is being put in at Dom. No. 2. The one taken out was too small. All spring there was a power shortage, which of course affected the output of coal.

Development work in the New Waterford district is being pushed ahead, since the rates were adjusted. It was 10¢ before it was needed as places were scarce and the outputs, of course, low.

The Glace Bay Gazette announces that the staff of the Dominion No. 1 store will play a team of the Sterling. This shows the hold baseball is assuming, as the 'Sterling' is a metal mine in Richmond County.

The Herald says there is no bolshevism about Bob Baxter. The Record thought so too until we heard of a defence of Leunie and Trotsky Bob made at Sydney Mines.

With all his burdens Supt. A. J. Tonge still plays golf. It's the man who plays the game who wins out and with all the aftermath of war time problems it is good to get out into the open country and forget everything if only for a day.

A few days ago it was reported that boring was to be done at Gardner Mines. Immediately men began to see a large colliery plant at that place. These men didn't know or else they overlooked the fact that there are two collieries yet standing idle since the war, which could become producers when needed. These are Dom. No. 7 and 21, or the Hub and Victoria.

There was a paragraph a couple of weeks ago in one of the New York coal trade journals to the effect that a handsome automobile drove into the yard of one of the collieries. Out jumped a man, and making his way to the office asked where the automobile could be left. When permission was given to lodge it in the company's garage the other occupants of the carriage jumped out and trundled