

## AROUND THE COLLIERIES.

The time charter boats of the G. M. A have completed their season's contract.

The Dominion Coal Coy. shipped 48,061 tons more coal in Oct. '99, than in Oct. '98.

The International Mine, Bridgeport has so far this year shipped 180,000 tons. This has been by far the best year in the history of this colliery.

The output of Dom. No. 1 colliery for the 10 months ending Oct. was 412,000 tons. This is a fine showing for a mine that has only one outlet for coal.

The Dominion Coal Co. will pay out in wages this year no less a sum than 1,250,000 dollars. The sum of course includes wages paid on construction account.

The Jubilee shaft at Sydney Mines which had been re-opened for a short time for the purpose of getting three or four hundred tons for some special purpose has been again closed.

It is estimated that by the close of navigation the Dominion Coal Coy. will have shipped 820,000 tons to Montreal. The shipments this year leave all previous years far in the shade.

It costs the miner about 2c. a ton to blow his coal—where the conditions are favorable. It costs a coal company about a cent a ton to hoist coal and about  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent per ton for timbering, where the roof is fairly good.

It is said over 500 laborers will be discharged in a few weeks from the big works now going on at and around Sydney, C. B. Unless a number of these men return to their homes in Newfoundland the labor market will be glutted.

A bore hole for pumping purposes is being put down at International Mine. When the hole is completed it will be utilized for pumping the water from the Reserve and Dom. No. 1, until such times as a connection can be made with Dom. No. 2.

To show how large is the output at some of the collieries we give the figures for the Reserve Mine for 10 months of the present year viz 465,945 tons. By the end of the year the Reserve Colliery alone will have shipped more coal than came from all the collieries in N. S. thirty years ago.

Mr. Naismith, Supt. of the Sydney & Louisburg Railway leaves the employ of the Dominion Coal Co shortly to fill an important position at Lethbridge, with a salary almost equal to that of a cabinet minister. Mr. A. N. McLennan, of Glace Bay, a gentleman who has brought himself forward in the Company's employ, will take the position when vacated.

The people of North Sydney are a little more than mildly agitated over the belief that the Nova Scotia Steel Coy. will establish works there. The specific grounds for this belief are not boldly asserted, but it is stated that Mr. Graham Fraser and Mayor Bertram would not have been seen going around spying the land unless 'something' was in view. May it not be the case that the consultation was over a locality for coke ovens.

Eleven cars of copper ore from the mines in Colchester arrived in Pictou last week for the new smelter.

More coal has gone to the U. S. from N. S. this year than in any year since 1873 when coal was in great demand everywhere.

The P. W. A. at Reserve Mines are talking about building a hall in which to hold their meetings, as there has been a disagreement between the lodge and its late landlords.

Newfoundlanders are arriving at Sydney in droves. On a recent trip of the Bruce a hundred and fifty came over and the succeeding trip fifty.

A question engaging the attention of some of the people of Broad Cove is 'what place should Mr. Hussey be given in developing coal mining in that locality.'

Mr. Wm. Blakemore, formerly of the Dom. Coal Coy. and latterly manager at Fernie, B. C., has given up mine managing for a season and is now in the insurance business.

There is no scarcity of miners in C. B., but laborers around the collieries are somewhat scarce at times owing to men from the collieries seeking and obtaining work, at fully bigger wages—perhaps—with the Steel Coy. in Sydney.

Almost anywhere in the vicinity can be seen prospectors engaged in searching mother earth for minerals. Recently since Cape Breton became known to be rich in mineral wealth, scores of outside speculators and prospectors have come in and are spending money and time in their search for all kinds of minerals.—N. S. Herald.

Steady work means something to the operators as well as to the men, for instance, when a mine is not working steadily or when its output is small, only 27 tons of coal—less or more, is hoisted for every ton of coal used in raising the coal, pumping etc. When times are brisk and the output large sixty tons are raised for every ton consumed.

The miners at International send up on an average  $3\frac{1}{2}$  tons of coal per man. An average of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  tons means that some men may put up as many as from eight to ten tons on occasional days. The coal in this mine is of varying height. The lowest price paid 40c. is for coal which is called 6 ft. 6 high. Coal 5 ft. 6 or under is paid at a higher rate.

A number of papers which did not take their information direct from the RECORD but through another source where purloining had been resorted to, made the funny statement that "by the end of the year the Dom. Coal Coy. will have shipped the large quantity of 60,000 tons over last year." The shipments of the Dominion Coal Coy. will be nearly 400,000 tons more than last year.

The Dominion Coal Coy. shipped in Oct. 110,106 tons of coal to Montreal against 88,843 for the corresponding month in '98. The shipments to Montreal from the beginning of the season up till the end of Oct. were 784,634 tons against 688,394 for corresponding period of '98. This shows an increase for '99 of the large quantity of 116,000.