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## SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS.

Coal mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the North-West Territories and a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years renewal for a further term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of \$1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal sub-divisons of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of \$5 which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, rescinded by Chap. 27 of 4-5 George V. assented to 12th June, 1914.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.

W. W. CORY, Deputy Minister of the Interior.

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rainfall was greatly in excess of that of other years. The precipitation records show that more rain fell in 1915 than in 1914 at both points, yet it was by no means excessive. At 105-Mile, from September 1, 1913, to August 31, 1914, there was 10.94 inches of moisture, and during the corresponding months of 1915 there was 14.15 inches. In Quilchena District the figures were respectively 10.34 inches and 15.203 inches. Thus, it is clearly seen that although the 1914-15 precipitation was greater than in 1913-14, the increase was not nearly as great as one might think. The precipitation of the past year, while it exceeded that of the year before, is regarded as a very light precipitation record.

Both experimental stations are situated at points where a fair test of the districts is possible, and both are elevations well above the 2,500 feet elevation which a noted scientist gave as the height below which farming could be profitably carried on. Both are nearer the 3,000 feet mark. The Quilchena farm is high on the rolling plateau of the Commonage about four miles south of Nicola Lake, and the 105-Mile farm is on the Cariboo Road on the great Interior plateau, some 90 miles north of Ashcroft.

## The Recent Workmen's Compensation Hearing

(Continued from Page 4)

I cannot but feel that it would be to the employer's interest to be allowed to purchase his protection in the open market rather than be compelled to join himself with others in a mutual insurance scheme over which he has no control; of which he has no knowledge, and under which he is building up an unknown future liability which will undoubtedly seriously handicap him in future years should he ever wish to sell out, and which may also seriously interfere with his credit with his bankers, as they will naturally want to know what his overhead charges are at all times, and this he cannot tell if he has insurance in a mutual form, particularly so where the field is so limited.

In closing there is one other point I would like to touch on, and that is the cost of administration. Why should the general public pay for the administration of a fund in which they are not directly interested? The merchant, the farmer and men in other classes of business which do not come within the Act are being asked to contribute to the cost of administration of this fund. This is absolutely wrong, as without a doubt, if it is to be a State administered scheme, then it should be wholly self-sustaining.

I notice that the Premier in his recent manifesto said that this was not the time for experimental legislation; yet, almost in the same breath, he speaks of this Workmen's Compensation measure which the Government stands pledged to put into force at the next session. If this is not experimental legislation I would like to know what is, and it would be well to keep in mind that if this monopolistic scheme goes through, then the B. C. legislators must not be surprised if those outside the Province controlling investment funds begin to view British Columbia with some degree of suspicion. It is obvious that the Province needs capital to enable the development of vast resources to be undertaken, and encouragement rather than discouragement of the financial interests is what is required in the best interests of the Province.

