the depths of a British Columbia back-woods. After a run of about five minutes, the locomotive Pulls up at No. 4. This is the most extensive mine in the Union Colliery, and yields the most coal. The underground workings now aggregate several miles in

length, the distance from the entrance of the slope to the face being in the neigh-NO. 4 borhood of a mile and a half. Mining is SLOPE. carried on upon the pillar and stall system,

the pillar constituting quite two-thirds of the original area of coal. At about a hundred yards from the entrance another slope branches off in an easterly direction, and at an angle of 45 degrees. This is known as No. 2 slope, work was suspended here for a short time some eighteen months ago, but since the demand for coal increased and the market improved mining has been steadily carried on, in a coal of good quality and on the true dip. The power for running the machinery and pumps in the mine is generated by electricity, and in the power-house are two dynamos each of 250 volts, one of eighty horse-power the other one hundred horse and power. a number, by which each miner is known, and the truck load is then duly credited by the tally-man on a large bulletin board to its digger. But if by any chance the label becomes detached or lost from the truck the tally-man makes a note of the circumstance and waits for the miner to complain that he has not been credited with the full amount of coal he has sent Then by knowing the drift from which the truck up. was loaded disputes of this kind can easily be settled. The tally-man, it should however be mentioned, is not an employee of the Colliery Company, but of the miners themselves, engaged by the men upon the advice of the superintendent. He works ten hours a day and receives three dollars per diem for his services, which are certainly neither light nor easy. In the present incumbent of the office the men have certainly made a wise choice. An old Northumberland coal miner, this man has in the last twenty-five years seen and worked in coal mines in almost every quarter of the globe, and he consequently knows the practical end of his business as thoroughly as it is possible to learn it.

With the tallyman I had a most interesting

The old plant was also used in connection with hauling gear seven years ago, when however, the slope was only in a distance of 200 yards. The new plant comprises a com-Pound wound dynamo of Westinghouse make, and a Ball engine. At the No. 6 level are two Edison motors driving Gould pumps and five Jeffrey pumps. The ventilation of the mine is excellent, the motive power being furnished by a large Guibal fan sixteen feet in diameter, the air being circulated



the separate split system, and it is estimated that 45,000 cubic feet of air is passed down the slope per minute. It is a most delightful change to enter the cool fan-room from the heat outside. At one time Stanley machine coal cutters were used in the mine, but it is rather interesting to note that in this instance at least it was found that manual labor was preferable to machinery, and the machines are now rusting in a shed. Of the mine equipment some idea will be gained from the fifth photograph herewith produced.

Not the least interesting of the details in connection with the working of this coal mine is the system employed for weighing the coal and of crediting each miner with the amount his labour has produced. The

trucks as they are pulled up from the WEIGHING slope in trains of four are automatically dumped into a railroad car standing on THE the large but sensitive scales. Directly COAL. this registers twenty-four tons it is hauled

away and replaced with an empty car which in its turn is filled and removed. On each truck as it ascends to the surface is a little leather or tin label stamped with

air being circulated THE NEW OVENS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. employed by the white by what is known as (In the building on the right machinery for manufacture of fire-clay brick is installed.) miner. He does the dirty work and the finicky work a white miner objects to doing. For instance, the coal here is rather dirty, and requires a lot of picking over. This the Chinaman does. He also loads the trunks. Now if a white miner was obliged to hire a white man to do this sort of work, he would have to pay him at any rate \$2.50 per day. The Chinaman works for \$1.50. If a white miner had to pay his assistant \$2.50 a day, he would not make more than that sum'himself. By employing a Chinese assistant he makes from \$3.00 to \$4.00, at the existing scale per ton paid by the Company. Now vou will admit three dollars, or even four dollars a day is not too much pay for a practical coal-miner to earn, but he would not earn this pay by one-third if he could not employ his Chinaman help unless the Company raised the scale of pay per ton, and the miners have good grounds for believing that the management would refuse to do this. If, then, the Chinese or Japs were excluded, it would mean simply this: More white men would be employed, but the miner's wages would be reduced, and the result would very possibly be a strike-the most undesirable thing

conversation on the question of Mongolian labour in coal mines. This is what he said; I give it in nearly his own words : "You ask me, sir, what the feeling of the miners is with regard to the employment of Chinese and Japanese in the mines. Well, do you know the people who are making all the fuss about it are not the miners. You look surprised, but I am telling you the truth. Now in a coal mine a Chinaman is not a miner; he is simply a labourer

employed by the white