PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Mr. Wm. Fleet Robertson, provincial mineralogist for British Columbia, has returned to Victoria from an official visit to the Portland Canal district.

Mr. W. F. Ferrier, of Toronto, has been visiting British Columbia. While in that province he investigated mining conditions and prospects in the Portland Canal district.

Dr. Eugene Haanel, Dominion director of mines, was in British Columbia late in October, in connection with the investigations his branch of the Canada Department of Mines is making relative to the treatment and profitable utilization of zinc ores, of which there are known to be large quantities in several districts of that province, especially in the Kootenay.

Mr. Elias Rogers, president of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, was in British Columbia last month. After spending a short time at Fernie, southeast Kootenay, he paid a brief visit to Victoria.

Mr. Anthony J. McMillan, liquidator of Le Roi Mining Company, has returned to British Columbia from London, having reached Rossland during October.

Mr. W. J. Elmendorf, manager of the Portland Canal Mining Company, was in Victoria, B.C., early in November, after having been to Tacoma, Washington, with Mr. C. H. Dickie, president of the company, to discuss with the smelting company there matters connected with the treatment of silver-lead concentrate from the mining company's mine in Portland Canal camp.

Mr. W. H. Aldridge, managing director of the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company of Canada, Limited, has returned to Trail, B.C., from a business visit to Toronto and Montreal.

Mr. Edmund B. Kirby, of St. Louis, Missouri, who during the time of the Gooderham-Blackstock control of those mines was general manager of the Centre Star and War Eagle, at Rossland, B.C., has returned to the United States from the Skeena district of British Columbia, where he had been examining mineral claims.

Mr. John McMartin, formerly of Cobalt, who is developing a gold mine at Sheep Creek, Nelson mining-division, B. C., went to San Francisco lately with his consulting engineer, Mr. W. Watson, of New York, in connection with the intended early erection of a stamp mill at the Mother Lode, Sheep Creek.

Mr. H. H. Webb, consulting engineer of the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, is in Porcupine, and has assumed active direction of the Rea Mines properties, recently taken over by the Consolidated Gold Fields Company.

Mr. Frank G. Stevens, who for the past ten years has been mining in British Columbia and Mexico, is taking special work in economic geology and metallurgy at Queen's University. His present address is 95 Clergy Street West, Kingston, Ont.

The action brought by Mr. Clifford E. Smith against Dr. Milton L. Hersey, et al, has been dropped. The words of Mr. Smith's counsel sum up the position: "I feel in duty bound, as counsel, to say that I am convinced that there is nothing in the charges spread out on the record . . . The plaintiff authorizes me to . . . withdraw entirely in the fullest and freest and frankest way, all charges of wrong-doing or fraud against Mr. Brook, Dr. Hersey, and the other defendants in this action. Both action and counter claim were dismissed without costs.

Mr. J. B. Tyrrell brought to this office a large specimen of native copper found on the Coppermine River, Mackenzie district, draining into the Arctic Ocean. The specimen weighs about two pounds.

Mr. J. B. Tyrrell has opened up an office in Porcupine for the Anglo-French Company.

Twenty-one members were present at a dinner of the Montreal Branch of the Canadian Mining Institute, held on Friday, November 4th. Mr. John E. Hardman occupied the chair, and Professor Dulieux acted as vice-chairman. At the close of the dinner the following nominations were made for next year's council:—For president, Dr. F. D. Adams; for vice-presidents, Mr. Thos. Cantley and Dr. A. E. Barlow; for councillors, Messrs. Dulieux, Denis, and Bancroft.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

NOVA SCOTIA.

Glace Bay: Dominion Coal Output.—The output for October was lower than was anticipated, reaching only 329,000 tons. The decrease was occasioned by delays to shipping caused by bad weather conditions. The month was exceptionally stormy, and a succession of gales and rainstorms in the Gulf greatly hindered shipping.

Consequent upon the death of the manager of No. 2 Colliery, a number of changes have been made in the appointments of colliery managers. Mr. Alex. S. McNeill, formerly manager of Dominion No. 9 Colliery, is now manager of No. 2 Colliery; Mr. D. L. Mackay removes from No. 7 Colliery to become manager of No. 9, and Mr. P. Pendergast, formerly manager of No. 8, is appointed manager of No. 7 Colliery. Mr. Michael McIntosh is promoted from the position of underground manager at No. 5 Colliery to the managership of No. 8 Colliery.

A portion of the general office staff of the Coal Company has been moved to the general office of the Dominion Iron & Steel Company in Sydney. The heads of Coal Company departments now in Sydney are the general manager, the superintendent of shipping and general freight agent, and the comptroller. Mr. Plummer, the president of the two companies, recently spent a week in Cape Breton.

A correspondent in the United Mine Workers' Journal refers to Hon. Robert Drummond, the editor of the "Mining Record," in the following pleasant terms: "A bi-monthly jaundiced journal, edited by an old, unnatural, green-eyed prutresence of antiquity, who, with rotten heart and gangrenous brain, can jabber and grimace against all discontent, etc., etc." This is a fair sample of the language which the leaders of the U. M. W. A. cause have been in the habit of using in Cape Breton. Those who know the editor of the "Mining Record" and his power of repartee will await with interest the retort courteous. It is quite apparent that the feelings of the correspondent of the U. M. W. Journal must have been hurt in some way.

Reciprocity and Nova Scotian Coal Mines.—To those whose interests are bound up with the coal trade of Nova Scotia, the desire that is now being manifested in the West to deprive our coal mines of the protective duties under which they have grown and prospered carries with it the gravest menace. Reciprocity, so called, or the free admission of United States coal into Canada, does not present itself to the miner of Nova Scotia as a question in political economy. With him it is a question of existence—a matter concerning his bread and butter. The reasons that prompt the coal companies to oppose any change in the present tariff are concisely summed up in a letter addressed to