

Evidence to the fact that the construction of the Niagara Central railway to Port Dalhousie at once seems to be forthcoming is the statement that 8,000 ties for the work have been shipped, and are now on the M.C.R. tracks.

The Portage du Fort and Bristol Railway bill was passed at Ottawa with some amendments. The company will only be incorporated from Quyon westward to Pembroke, and to reach Hull and Ottawa will obtain running rights over the Pontiac and Pacific Junction Railway from Quyon down to Hull. The P. and P. J. Railway Company wanted the junction of the two railways made at Shawville, while the Portage du Fort Company wanted the junction at Quyon. The P. and P. J. Company said that if Quyon was adopted their business would be seriously jeopardized, because the section of the line between Shawville and Quyon was one of the best paying. The Portage du Fort Company contended that the engineering difficulties made Shawville as a junction point almost an impossibility. Quyon was decided upon.

Mining Matters.

The Waterloo mine, Camp McKinney, B.C., is to have a stamp mill at once.

T. B. Caldwell, Lanark, has fifteen men at work on his Calabogie, Ont., iron mine.

A 12-drill compressor is to be installed at once on the Cariboo mine, Camp McKinney.

Natural gas has been discovered in quantity at various points near Newmarket, Ont.

The gold output from the Yukon mines for the past season is estimated to be about \$20,000,000.

Leopold Meyer, Ottawa, acting for United States and Canadian capitalists, has bought the gold mine owned by Dale & Co., Madoc, in Hastings county. The purchase price is said to be \$225,000.

E. A. Teskey, St. Thomas; L. Teskey, M.D., Toronto; C. E. J. Smith, J. A. Thomas, London and L. E. Smith, Bothwell, Ont., have been incorporated as the Traders' Oil and Gas Developing Company: capital, \$20,000.

The Jenckes Machine Co., Sherbrooke, Que., recently sold to the Rosie Marie Company, which is operating properties on Alberni inlet, on the west coast of Vancouver Island, a compressor, two drills, a crusher, rolls, boiler and engine.

T. R. Deacon, M.E., O.L.S., Rat Portage, Ont., late manager of the Ontario Gold concessions, has been appointed resident Canadian director of the Mikado Gold Mining Co., Ltd., and will hereafter represent the company in that capacity in Canada. The Mikado is one of the best known gold producing mines in Canada.

H. J. Beemer has disposed of the Zenith mine at Rosspoint, Ont., to the Grand Calumet Mining Company, for \$254,000. Under the new management, the Zenith will be worked on a larger scale, and an extensive plant will be put in. At present there are 18 men working in the mine, and 180 tons of ore, running from 43 to 55 per cent. pure zinc, are being taken out weekly.

The Katherine Lead and Zinc Mine near Millbridge, Ont., contains ore rich in lead, zinc, and 20 ounces of silver to the ton. The ore is being sent to Europe for treatment. The officers of the company are: Charles L. Meyer, Ottawa, general manager; F. I. Daniels, superintendent; Robert Phillips, Henry Smith and Henry Lloyd, foremen; Fred Daniels, machinist.

The Standard Oil Company, which began work last autumn with a hundred men on Michipicoten Island in Lake Superior, in the reopening of old copper mines, has given orders to stop work at once, the showing of copper secured by the expenditure of a large sum of money being discouraging. Those who know the Standard Co.'s methods will now do some careful prospecting in the neighborhood, as if there were no copper in the mine, the statement to that effect would hardly be published.

Large quantities of gold are now being turned out by the Canadian Gold Fields Company at Deloro, and the Cordova Exportation Company at Belmont, but as these companies do not wish to interest the public they refuse to publish any figures on their output.

There are reports of a wonderfully rich strike on the hills at the back of Dahl river, in the Koyokuk district. Nuggets, it is said, some two and more inches have been found, and a rush is on to the scene of the finds, the maddest, it is said, in the history of the Yukon.

Walter E. Bagnell, chairman of the Bagnell Oil Company, and managing director of the Canada Petroleum Company, which controls the Gaspé oil fields, recently returned from the scene of operations in Gaspé peninsula, and says that if the proper facilities are afforded, the company is prepared within six months to land a cargo of petroleum products in England, and to place a high class of illuminating oil on the Canadian market.

The well known Barker mine in the Lower Manitou, HW339 and 443, Ont., has been sold for the sum of \$250,000, Messrs. Donald Keith and W. F. Hugo of Duluth being the purchasers, associated with whom are other prominent Duluth and Toronto capitalists. This property was acquired by the Barkers in the fall of last year from T. Woodworth and Isaac Sanderson, and with all possible speed a Tremaine mill was installed as a testing mill to show up the value of the property, with the present satisfactory results.

The details of the extension of the department of mining and metallurgy at McGill University, made possible through the continued generosity of Sir William McDonald, have now been decided upon. Instead of one assistant, as in the past, Prof. Porter will hereafter have under him a lecturer on metallurgy and assaying, a demonstrator or assistant, and a sufficient force of mechanics to attend to the machinery of the laboratories. Mr. J. W. Bell, Dr. Porter's demonstrator for two years, has been promoted to the post of lecturer on metallurgy. A fellowship, to be known as the "Dawson" fellowship, in recognition of the late Principal's services to the mineral industries, has been instituted for teaching research in mining and metallurgy. It is hoped that the demonstratorship and fellowship will be filled from the ranks of the graduating class.

The coal mining industry of the Northwest Territories is assuming considerable proportions, and when fully developed will, no doubt, constitute one of the most important resources of the country. At the present time the only large collieries are those at Anthracite, some four miles east of Banff, on the Canadian Pacific Railway; at Canmore, about fifteen miles southeast of Banff, also on the main line of railway; at Roche Perue, on the Sault line of railway, in Eastern Assiniboia, about four miles from the international boundary; and at Lethbridge, in Southern Alberta, some fifty miles from the boundary, and about the same distance from the foot of the Rocky mountains. In addition to these, there are a number of small mines, many of which are situated in the vicinity of Edmonton, on the North Saskatchewan. It is a rather remarkable fact that of the 338,661 tons of coal mined during last year over two-thirds was exported or consumed by the various railways. It is estimated that not more than from 75,000 to 100,000 tons is used in the Territories for domestic purposes.

Further details are to hand regarding the successful trial of Crow's Nest coal made by the British Admiralty. Rear Admiral Palliser, in command of the Pacific Squadron, reported that he found the Crow's Nest coal superior in every respect to the Pacific Coast or North of England coal, having less smoke, less ash, more durability and greater evaporating power. The only coal he thinks compares with it is the best Welsh article, and he declares that it is equal to this in most respects. This is a most important matter, and the successful test of the Crow's Nest coal at Vancouver probably means a big annual contract with the British Admiralty Office. At present all the coal used by the Pacific Squadron (40,000 tons per year) is brought 20,000 miles by sea, but now it can be supplied from Fernie, B.C., by only 500 miles' transportation. It is also said that the general manager of the Crow's Nest Coal Company is negotiating with the United States naval authorities with a view to supplying the American Pacific Squadron with this fuel.