

COAL MINES



COAL WAS discovered in the Province of British Columbia in the year 1835 at Squash on the Pacific Slope; and very shortly afterwards, through information given to the Hudson's Bay Co. by the Indians, at Nanaimo and Ladysmith. The Douglas seam at Nanaimo was discovered in the year 1850 and from this small beginning the industry has developed till we have the Canadian Western Fuel Co. operating Number One, Protection, Reserve and Harewood Mines, and also a new mine, which they have recently opened up on Wakesiah Farm. The Granby Consolidated operating a new mine at Cassidy, which is one of the most up to date mines today, having fine bath house with showers all ready for the men as soon as they come up from their work; first-class boarding house and a dining room fit for any hotel. The site is all laid out with nice boulevards, and the most modern cottages and bungalows. Closely adjoining these is a fine sports ground, where many exciting games of baseball are pulled off. The Grant Mine is another new mine which has great possibilities ahead of it, being only in its infancy as yet, and at the present time putting out about 100 tons a day. In addition to these, Cumberland, South Wellington, Extension and Jingle Pot mines are still going strong.

The figures for the month of March, 1919 give a good example of how the Nanaimo coal fields have grown:

	Tons.
Canadian Collieries, (Dunsmuir) Ltd.	85,529
Canadian Western Fuel Co., Ltd.,	58,005
Pacific Coast Coal Mines	5,298
B. C. Coal Co. Ltd.	2,788
Nanoose Collieries, Ltd.	1,898
Granby Consolidated	945

Making a total for the month of March of 154,463 tons, whilst the total of the Mainland for the same period was 57,365.

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