

extensively this coming season. There is a promising showing of galena on the group and the men behind the scheme are of sterling character.

Now that it is a forgone conclusion that the lead bounty will be extended for another five years, from June 30th, and

with the two or three improved features which it will embody, the lead miners of the Slocan are already lying back with a sigh of relief, assured that for this further period they will be assured of a stable minimum price on the product of their mines.

GENERAL MINING NEWS.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Sydney Mines.—The closing of the iron and steel departments of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company will reduce the output of the company's collieries by several hundred tons per day. The rumours of labor difficulties have been greatly exaggerated. The suspension of active work in the iron and steel departments is due to the fact that heavy stocks are now on hand.

The closing of the company's open hearth and blast furnace plants mean the throwing out of about 800 men engaged in these departments, with a pay roll of about \$40,000 to \$50,000 per month.

This does not take into consideration the effect this closing of the steel plants may have on the output of the mines.

The amount of coal consumed at the blast furnaces and open hearth is 600 tons per day, which represents the output of about 200 men engaged directly and indirectly in the handling and mining of this amount of coal.

The company have now this additional 600 tons of coal per day to find a market for.

Sydney Mines.—The new mine, Sydney No. 4, of the Nova Scotia Steel Company, commenced to be a producer on a promising scale on the first of the month. The management made no attempts at an output until everything was in readiness for a good start. The output for the first week of operation was expected to be 400 tons per day, and this ought to be doubled as soon as another machine is installed.

The company's coal shipments for May and the five months were as follows:

Shipments, May 1908	67,758
Shipments, May 1907.....	43,348

Increase, May 1908.. 24,410

Shipments, 5 months, 1908....	223,495
Shipments, 5 months 1907.....	163,627

Increase, 5 months 1908.... 59,868

Sydney.—Three steamers are expected by the Dominion Steel Company to load rails for lake points for the Canadian Pacific, Canadian Northern and National Transcontinental Railways. Each of these vessels will carry 6,000 tons of finished steel. Arrangements have been made by the Steel Company to load twelve steamers with rails during the next two months, all of which will be shipped to lake points. American engineers, presumably of the Hill system, are at Winnipeg watching the results after the Cape Breton rails have been placed, and should they prove satisfactory, it is the intention to place several large orders with the Dominion Steel Company. The local plant is running twenty-four hours, with every skilled laborer available in harness.

Sydney.—The Dominion Iron & Steel Company has purchased half the property known as the Carlins Farm in the vicinity of the company's blast furnaces. It is believed that the object of the purchase is to allow the company latitude to ultimately increase its blast furnaces equipment.

Glace Bay.—From figures secured it is found that 810 of the Dominion Coal Company employees were off duty on Monday following pay day—that is, 10 per cent. of the total number employed. There were no picnics or other attractions to cause this.

The company figures that they lose at least 130,000 tons of coal per year by men absenting themselves from work.

The loss in wages to the men is \$130,000; to the Government in royalty, \$16,250, besides the value of the coal and the company's profit. This staying off work costs Cape Breton half a million dollars annually. Lay-offs are due largely to picnics and pay days.

ONTARIO.

Cobalt.—The Chambers-Ferland property, which is the basis of latest flotation on the Toronto and New York exchanges, comprises 124 acres adjacent to the La Rose, Nipissing, O'Brien, and Right of Way. It is under the same penalty as the O'Brien—the necessity of paying a royalty of 25 per cent. to the Ontario Government. Messrs. Frank Loring, M.E., and J. Edwards Leekie reported on the mine for the promoter, C. J. McCuaig of Montreal. The capitalization is \$2,500,000 with but \$300,000 in the treasury.

Port Arthur.—The Beaver Superior mill is being equipped. Twelve months' supply of ore is said to be stoped out.

ALBERTA.

Coleman.—More coke ovens are to be built at the works of the International Coal & Coke Company. The number at present in commission is 200. This is to be doubled. Materials are already assembled and ground has been broken.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Hazelton.—Returning prospectors from the Finlay river gold fields bring many contradictory reports. A few facts, however, are to be accepted on their face. Prospectors may choose one of two trails—the Omenica and the N. W. M. Police trail. On the latter trail the Skeena has to be crossed twice. Pack-horses must swim the current and packs are taken over in boats. On the Omenica trail there is only one small stream to ford. A trail is being blazed to Bear Lake. Supplies are scarce and horses are difficult to obtain.

Phoenix.—Official notice was received early in June that the mines and smelters of the Dominion Copper Company would resume work on June 15th, and instructions were forwarded to get everything into shape. The interest on \$800,000 of 6 per cent. bonds has been settled. All the machinery is in good condition. At the Boundary Falls smelter sufficient fuel in stock to last for a month. There is also seven days' ore supply there in the bins. The Rawhide mine, with its enlarged trackage will be able to output 1,000 tons per day.

Vancouver.—The Ikeda mines, on Ikeda Bay, Moresby Island, send now about two hundred tons of ore per month to the Ladysmith smelter. This ore is won largely by development work. A four-drill compressor has been installed and