

Sydney Mines, May 30th.—On account of the extraordinary ice conditions prevailing in North Sydney Harbor, the collieries of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company are temporarily closed. This put 2,500 men out of work. About 100,000 tons of coal are banked ready for shipment.

The Maritime Coal, Railway & Power Company have acquired the property of the Canada Coal & Railway Company in Cumberland County.

Sphinghill.—On May 30th the Conciliation Board met in Truro. Mr. Archibald represented the Cumberland Coal & Railway Company. Mr. Justice Graham was chairman. Two questions were up for settlement. On one of these the board agreed, deciding in favor of the men. No agreement could be reached on the second point by the three arbitrators. The session was therefore postponed until June 27th. The point gained by the men had to do with the pay of workers at counter level crossings on No. 14 chute. The rate of pay was raised from \$1.23 per day to \$2.44. The second point hinges upon the men's claim of 4 cents for areas of an inch by a yard. The chairman held that in 1894 an agreement was made for 2 cents a box, and that this is still binding. Each of the three members of the board holds a different view.

ONTARIO.

Operations on Loon Lake Iron Mines are soon to be commenced.

At the O'Brien Mine, Cobalt, two men were killed by an explosion of dynamite on June 3rd.

The Algoma Steel Company announces that it will commence at once the erection of a large blast furnace. The furnace is to cost \$1,000,000, and will be the largest in Canada. Coke ovens will also be erected. The building of a new furnace has become essential because of the high price of American pig iron.

The Mining Recorder's Office for the Montreal River Division was opened on May 30th. Mr. Alex. McPhail is in charge.

An air compressor is being installed at the Government workings on the Gilies Limit.

In a south cross-cut, at a point 250 feet southwest from the original 49 strike, a new vein, rich in silver, has been discovered on the Nipissing.

The Evans Mine is making a shipment of cobalt ore to Wales. A French syndicate controls a reduction plant there.

On Monday, May 26th, a prospector named Peter Leclair was killed by the T. & N. O. yard engine at Cobalt.

The Rat Portage Diamond Drill Company have commenced drilling on the Hamilton property at Stobie Falls.

The Clover Leaf Copper Mine, near Grassy Lake, in the Larder Lake District, is owned by a Pennsylvania syndicate. It has produced about 150 tons of fair ore. The ore has never been shipped. Adjoining this property a Toronto syndicate has purchased a number of claims and will operate them this summer.

The Gamey property of 40 acres, near the Coniagas Mine, has been purchased by the Cobalt Central Mining Company.

ALBERTA.

A Commission has been appointed to investigate the car shortage and to inquire into the conditions existing among the coal miners of the Province. The Commission consists of the Hon. A. L. Sifton, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, chairman; Mr. Louis Stockett, manager of the Bankhead coal mines, and Mr. Hansom, a working miner, belonging to Coleman. Sittings will be held in all the leading coal mining centres of the Province.

The coal mine operators of Bankhead have advanced the price of coal at the mines by 15 per cent. This is rendered necessary, they claim, by the advanced rates of miners' pay.

Mr. Chas. P. Hill, manager of the Hillcrest Coal Mine at Hillcrest, Alberta, refused to sign an agreement taking back into his employ the striking miners. Mr. Hill claims that the new wage schedule leaves him absolutely no room for profit.

In Edmonton rumors are still flying around concerning the discovery of gold in the Yellowhead Pass of the Rocky Mountains.

The miners employed by the Alberta Railway & Coal Company have made application to the Federal authorities for the appointment of a board of investigation and conciliation to enquire into alleged grievances, which are stated to be the general condition of employment, wages and hours of work. The Minister of Labor has consented to appoint a board, and the company has been notified to name its representatives.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

On the Rose Gulch Hydraulic Company's property, adjoining the Cariboo Consolidated, in Cariboo District, newly discovered ground breasts out fully six feet of pay dirt, with a width of 75 feet. One monitor only is at work on the new property.

The Rambler-Cariboo Mine will begin shipping ore in the first week of June. Ore has not yet been struck on the 1,400 foot level.

The Bowen Island Copper Company has sunk a prospecting shaft, 60 feet, in what appears to be a strong, true fissure vein, containing a good grade of chalcopyrite. A drift has been run 50 feet on the lead. A working shaft will now be sunk. This property is within twenty miles of the City of Vancouver.

The British Columbia Copper Company, Greenwood, was able to tide over the coke shortage of last month. Superintendent McIntosh has now about 200 men employed at the Mother Lode, in Deadwood Camp. The new crusher for this company's mine at Oro Denoro is being installed.

The Tip Top Mine, east of Greenwood, has been purchased at a cash price, reported to be about \$10,000.

Dr. J. Bonsall Porter, with a large party of McGill mining students, has visited the principal mining camps of British Columbia. Many of the students will remain here for the summer. They have secured temporary positions.

The Sullivan Group Mining Company, Kimberly B.C., with mines at Kimberly and a 125 ton smelter at Marysville, seven miles distant from the mine, owns and operates the Heberlin process for roasting ore before smelting. The smelter capacity is soon to be increased to 150 tons daily. During April the smelter turned out 521 tons of bullion, worth \$50,000.

A new ten drill air compressor has been started at the Ymir Mine.

The demand for coal continues to be far in excess of the supply at the Vancouver Island and Puget Sound coal mines.

Boundary District miners, smelter men and laborers have been given substantial raises in pay. All underground men get a fifty cent raise. Surface men will get 10 per cent. increase on present pay. Smelter day laborers will receive \$3 per day of nine hours. In other departments an increase of from 25 to 50 cents is granted.

Suit has been brought against F. Augustus Heinze by the Canadian Pacific Railway. Mr. Heinze owns 600,000 acres of timber lands and coal fields in British Columbia. The C. P. R. is trying to compel Mr. Heinze to take title of his land in order that the railroad may then proceed with the development of other properties after Mr. Heinze has definitely designated the exact boundaries of his own.

The Golden Eagle Mine is reported to have been sold to a Vancouver syndicate for \$60,000. The Golden Eagle is in the North Fork district and was originally owned by Christopher Tobiasson. Five years ago an English syndicate took a bond of the property for \$75,000, but the bond lapsed.