

year with a force of at least fifty men, will receive an allowance of \$1,000 from the Colonial Treasury. Greater facilities are to be afforded for exploration purposes. A contract has been made with a London Company providing for the development of certain coal areas in the island, the success of which would result in creating a new industry equal to two such as the Harmsworth paper mills. The total import of coal at the present time into the Colony is 200,000 tons annually, which costs our people \$1,500,000 annually. To this will have to be added another 50,000 tons annually after this year, which will be required for the operation of the Harmsworth and Albert Reed mills. It is estimated that at least one million dollars goes out of the Colony never to return, in the price paid for the coal in Cape Breton (from which place it is imported), and the freight on the steamers which carry it. Could coal be procured on the island it would mean that this money would be kept amongst our people, assuring that the fixed charges on local coal would be the same as on imported coal, though it is quite possible that eventually local coal might be mined very much more cheaply. It is therefore apparent that this matter of the coal exploration is one of special magnitude, particularly as the areas where coal has been found are in close proximity to the localities wherein are situated the paper mills above mentioned.

Plans are also being matured for the further development of petroleum bearing areas on the West Coast of the island which have been worked so far in a more or less desultory fashion, but which have yielded an output so satisfactory that it is employed entirely now for the manufacture of illuminating gas for the city of Saint John's.

Farm Colonies.

It is proposed to stimulate interest in agriculture by the providing of land for desirable British immigrants. Agriculture ranks as second amongst the avocations of our people, though we are wont to refer to it as being but in its infancy. Without dwelling upon the possibilities of gradually ripening wheat that would suit this climate or entering into higher forms of agriculture, the fact remains that if this pursuit can only be developed sufficiently