

Co-operative stores for workmen are again being discussed in Cape Breton. These stores are described as having been a great success in the Old Country; profits there last year amounting to nearly fifty-two million dollars on nearly four hundred and sixty million dollars worth of business. They have recently purchased six million dollars worth of wheat-lands in the North-West. In this country they have not been a complete success, but this has been largely due to incompetent management. The co-operative store at Dominion No. 1, started three years ago, has been very successful. The membership is now 153; the capital is \$7,000, and profits last year were \$4,200 on \$44,000 worth of business. A good many years ago these stores were to be found in every mining town in the Province, but many became defunct. Now, however, they seem likely to be revived on a similar basis.

The Nova Scotia Mining Society held its annual meeting here last week. President Hayward read an interesting paper on "Salt," looking towards its manufacture in Nova Scotia. Other interesting papers on technical education were read by Professor Richardson, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Prof. Sexton, of Dalhousie College. The officers of the society for the coming year were elected as follows: President: A. A. Hayward; 1st vice-president, Charles Archibald; 2nd vice-president, Prof. J. E. Woodman; council, J. A. Johnson, F. H. Sexton, R. H. Brown, H. S. Poole, G. W. Stewart, B. F. Pearson; secretary-treasurer, H. M. Wyld; editor and librarian, H. Piers.

Union between Halifax and Dartmouth is under discussion. The two places are now separated by the harbor, and there is some difference of opinion as to the advisability of the move. The population of Dartmouth is between six and seven thousand, and it is the seat of important industrial works. There is a probability of the union being consummated in the near future.

Halifax, NS., March 26th.

COAL IN ONTARIO.

Editor "Monetary Times."

Sir,—The following item appeared in the Galt Daily Reporter, of the 22nd inst., under the heading "Railway Confiscates Coal Output."

Saginaw, March 22nd:—The Pere Marquette Railroad has issued an order confiscating for its own use, all the coal that is mined in the Saginaw Valley between now and April 1st. The railroad has on hand 20,000 tons, and expects to increase this by 30,000 tons.

If there is coal in the Saginaw Valley in the State of Michigan, what reason is there that there is no coal in Ontario? What difference is there, if any, between the geo-

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