

AROUND THE COLLIERIES.

Mr. Graham Fraser left this week for British Columbia, where he will likely remain for the next six months.

Mr. J. R. Cowans, general manager of the Cumb. R. & Coal Co., was on a visit to Boston and New York last week.

The Parrsboro and Springhill Railway will probably pass into the hands of the Government in the near future, as part of the loop promised a month ago.

The slackening off in trade at the large collieries will give the smaller concerns a chance to fill up. These have been complaining of a lack of labor for sometime.

At intervals during the past few months the Record strongly advised the colliery workers to make hay while the sun shone. Many, in view of the steady work, laughed the advice to scorn. Those who heeded it may be the happiest before next seasons shipping begins.

A week or two ago there were nearly ninety thousand tons of coal at the big banking station of the Dom Coal Co. The quantity now remaining is insignificant. It is not all probable that there will be as much coal banked the coming winter as last.

The hole that was dug before the Post Office in Springhill for the ostensible purpose of laying down a concrete sidewalk, has been abandoned by the promoters and filled up with the material taken out. The Conservatives say the dead hopes of the Liberals in Cumberland lie buried there.

A large number of I. C. R. officials went carefully over the C. R. & C. Cos. branch line between the Junction and Parrsboro. As the weather was exceptionally fine for days preceding the 26th Oct. the gentlemen enjoyed it immensely, laughing heartily at intervals at some joke, apparently kept to themselves.

Mr. Thomas Blackwood, Deputy Inspector of Mines for Pictou Co., was in Springhill recently. Tom is well and favorably known to many of the old timers in and about the mines here, who were very pleased to see him. He paid a visit to the collieries accompanied by A. V. Cameron, Deputy Inspector for Cumberland.

Considering the dire threats thrown out, of the annihilation of Cumberland industries in general, and Springhill in particular, we are as yet moving along about as usual, and working fairly steady. We will probably not be able to say as much by the time Laurie finishes his work. Eh?

The late election among other things, proved conclusively that when the people of Springhill make up their minds to a certain line of action or conduct they follow it through. The 26th. of October was a red letter day in Springhill and was a credit in every way to the town and its citizens. The entire absence of liquor accounts for it. The day was an ideal one for an election. The appearance and speech of the crowds on the street were in the highest degree respectable and decent. While chaffing was indulged in by the different groups on the street it was entirely good natured and the best of goodwill prevailed.

At least one of the C. B. newspapers has it that the output and shipments of the Dominion Coal Co. are 300,000 tons in excess of the shipments for the same period of last year. Scarcely. Now that the elections are over there is little justification for the use of hyperbole.

Though the Port Hood colliery suffered some from a shortage of water for boiler supply, the shipments for the season will show a substantial increase this season over last. The management expects by the end of the year to have shipped in the vicinity of 125,000 tons; a remarkably good showing.

There is not much of anything new to report about the collieries in Springhill. The work of development is going on along the usual lines. The tunnel being driven from No. 2 Seam, east of No. 2 Slope to No. 1 Seam has tapped the latter at 175 ft. This tunnel will open up a vast area of the very best coal; the seam is 10 ft. thick.

Twenty new tenements at Joggins are being rushed to completion by Rhodes, Curry & Co. These with the several houses the company are remodelling, will relieve the present scarcity of living accommodations. It is almost impossible to obtain board at any price, owing to the great activity around the colliery, having caused a great influx of labor.

The season for shipments by water being about over there is a slackening off in the trade of Pictou Co., and a number of the men have been discharged. Between the Acadia and the Drummond Collieries, the number is off and on about a hundred. This is to be regretted, but could not be avoided. Some of the men have consented to double up, or in other words to go shares.

Reports are current that something will be doing soon at Broughton. Thos. Lancaster, the former Gen'l Manager, Mr. Maybaw, former managing director, and some British capitalists have been viewing and reviewing the property. Broughton may be made a success if its future management dispenses with the fuss and feathers of the old. A little sense is needed to ensure success in coal mining.

The Maritime Coal Ry. and Power Company has made a most valuable find of coal on the areas owned by it at the Joggins Mines. For over thirty years persistent search has been made for the main seam of this remarkable coal basin, but although numerous bore holes have been put down, and much prospecting work done, yet all the efforts to locate the seam have hitherto failed. The News is pleased to report to day that the explorations carried on by different companies for many years have at last been crowned with success and the Main seam in this Coal Basin has been opened up. It is located about one mile to the westward of the Joggins Colliery. This discovery adds several million tons of quickly available coal to the vast quantity they now have in sight. A contract has been let for sinking a slope at this point, and a fair output could be obtained in time for next seasons shipments.