

further development this winter. They have let contracts to haul 3000 tons of ore from mines to Keno Hill to Mayo this winter.

Dr. W. E. Cockfield in his 1919 report on Keno Hill says in part, 'On a number of other claims minerals have been reported, and it seems probable that mineralization has taken place over a wide area. It seems probable that further prospecting will add greatly to the area around Keno Hill where mineral has been discovered. The prospects already discovered all contain a high grade ore, which will stand mining and shipping even under adverse conditions and many of them could be worked by hand methods of mining.'

The writer in July, saw ample proof of the truth of the above prediction, for hundreds of tons of pure silver-galena ore was stacked up in piles awaiting shipment, nearly all of which had been mined without the aid of power, merely by the use of pick and shovel.

Many other properties than those being developed by the Yukon Gold Co. have similar showings.

Mining engineers and experts who have visited the Mayo District are practically unanimous in their verdict that the present showing justifies the belief it will develop into a big camp.

The Mayo district is fortunate in having considerable winter and timber available from which power can be developed for operating.

The few properties mentioned above, do not by any means give an idea of the number located which have good showings, to do so would take too much space. The area is large and intensely mineralised. Its greatest need is intelligent prospecting and development.

The distances by the present wagon roads from Mayo to the best known properties are as follows, Lookout Mountain 29 miles, Silver King 29 miles, Keno Hill 42 miles, Rambler Hill 45 miles, Mount Cameron 65 miles. These roads also serve the other properties which are being developed.

The open season on navigation on the Yukon and Stewart Rivers is of ample length to enable the necessary supplies to be shipped in, and the result of operations to be shipped to the smelters, in Canada or the United States.

Unlike most cold sections where considerable snow is encountered, which closes down operations, these conditions are an advantage here. The cold does not materially affect adit or stoping operations and the small fall of snow is necessary to decrease hauling expenses. Mostly all of the freighting is done during the winter season, with sleighs drawn by teams, over a hard-packed snow trail or road.

It is the intention this winter to put motor-trucks and tractors in competition with horse-drawn vehicles to demonstrate which is the most economical method.

My opinion is that the Mayo area will astonish the mining world by its richness. Have been a resident of Yukon since 1898 and shall be pleased to give information to anyone genuinely interested.

#### MAYO DISTRICT, YUKON, ANXIOUS TO BE KNOWN.

The preparations of one of the largest mining companies in the Yukon to ship something like three thousand tons of silver bearing ore from the Mayo district this season is attracting the attention of nearly every Yukoner, and inspiring prospectors of the territory to greater activity than they have exerted for years.

Nothing so stimulates the prospector as the opening of a paying property. That the one company now

operating on Keno Hill has a paying property in its central group, at least for the present winter and possibly for several years, is admitted. The needful thing now to prove that property permanent is to prove depth.

To obtain depth, much earnest work is required. Diamond drilling and the sinking of shafts will tell the tale. It is understood that this work soon will be done by more than one now interested in the field, and there always is the possibility of others taking similar steps. Not only those directly interested in the mining game, but also those in other pursuits in the territory hope to see the prospecting pushed to a conclusion as rapidly as possible.

The federal government and the local government can do much to assist in encouraging the prospector, and much can be done toward hastening development by getting more genuine hard rock miners into the country. Men who are not miners and who are placing their funds in the Mayo region as grubstakes to assist the prospectors now there deserve every credit, and should share the returns as compensation for taking a portion of the early burden upon their shoulders. However, when it comes to proving the existence of veins and deposits, the trained and experienced miner is invaluable. Now that Yukon has such an attractive field mineralized over a large area, one essential thing is to make known the inducements of the region to men who affect the mining game and are eager for new chances.—'Dawson Weekly News.'

#### DEATH OF A PIONEER OF NOVA SCOTIA COAL MINING.

With the death of Robert Belloni there passes a pioneer of coal mining in Nova Scotia. Mr. Belloni, who has recently died in New York at an age exceeding ninety years, formed in 1864, with his brothers Charles and Augustus, and his brother-in-law Havermyer, the 'Blockhouse Coal Company' and opened a mine at Morien, Cape Breton Island, where he built a shipping pier at the pitmouth and loaded coal direct from the pit-tub into the vessel. Passing through many vicissitudes, the original company was reorganized as the Blockhouse Coal & Railway Co., and finally as the Blockhouse Mining Company. Since passing out of the hands of the Belloni family the mine and areas have been successively known as the Gowrie & Blockhouse Coal Co., and the North Atlantic Collieries, and are now owned by the Dominion Coal Company, which, it is understood, proposes re-opening of the property.

Mr. Belloni was a man of broad vision, and his plans forecasted some of the undertakings that have since been carried out by those who followed him. He had a railway route surveyed to Louisburg, and employed two eminent mining engineers, Prof. Lesley and Benjamin Smith Lyman, whose reports were among the first bringing the Nova Scotia fields to the attention of the outside world, and rank prominently in the early bibliography of the Cape Breton coalfields.

In 1864 the production of coal in Nova Scotia was less than 600,000 tons, and it included, moreover, the entire Canadian production. The span of Mr. Belloni's life and his connection with coal mining in Canada has covered the rise of the coal industry in Nova Scotia, and has been long enough to see the beginning of a coal industry in the West that will shortly leave the eastern coalfields far behind.

For the particulars of dates and other information in the foregoing note, the Editor is indebted to Mr. C. of the Dominion Coal Company.