

AROUND THE COLLIERIES.

The Acadia Coal Co.'s, three inch Calyx drill is at work near No. 1 shaft in an attempt to secure a supply of pure water, for general purposes. Boring will proceed until water is secured, that is within a reasonable distance.

President Ross, directors Wilson, Wanklyn and Hogg, of the Dominion Coal Co., are at present in C. B. taking a holiday. That's the way the Record would put it. Some others might say that if they are having a pic-nic they brought a hot wave with them to the discomfort of not a few.

There are some good outputs from the Dominion Coal Co.'s collieries these days, notwithstanding all the talk of scarcity of labor. On a day lately over 4000 tons were hoisted from the Dom. No. 2 shaft. The average from No. 2 is close on 4000, say 2750 from the Phelan and 1200 from the Harbor seam.

Single and duplex steam pumps for ordinary purposes are well described in Bulletin No. 34, issued by the Canada Foundry Co. The sizes and capacities of over 130 pumps are given, from a small pump with a capacity of 15 gallons per minute to one with the large capacity of 2192 gallons per minute.

A number of English miners arrived ten days ago at Inverness from Glace Bay. They gave as their reason for leaving that they could get nothing to do but loading. Some of them are good men, but like the Scotchmen some are good and others not so good. They say the work at Inverness is more along the line of what they have been used to.

The August number of "Mine and Quarry" is finely printed and profusely and handsomely illustrated. The several descriptive articles are most interesting, especially the one referring to operations in the Gunnison Tunnell. The machinery for this great work is supplied by the Sullivan Machinery Co. Copies of Mine and Quarry may be had from the office, Railway Exchange, Chicago.

It is not correct to say that the Dom. Coal Co. and the Inverness Ry. & Coal Co. are sniping each other. The simple story is: An agent from Inverness went to Glace Bay to give information to a few dissatisfied Scotsmen. Some of these went to Inverness, their chief reason for going being that it was a hand pick mine whereas Dom. No. 2 was a machine mine. The Dom. Coal Co. sent two men to Inverness to bring these men back, as they were owing the Dom. Coal Co. for passage money. The agents were only partially successful. If all reports be true the Dom. Coal Co. would have lost little had it allowed all the emigrants from Glace Bay to remain at Inverness—at least till they were broken in.

Messrs T. J. Brown, Thomas Cantley and Wm. Sedgwick, of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. paid a visit lately to the big collieries of the Dom. Coal Co. The boys are always glad to see Tom Brown, an old acquaintance.

Dominion No. 6 pit box is a common sense one, being just the right height for loading without breaking the loaders heart and back, and shattering the lumps that are thrown into the box. If the other collieries had such boxes, there would be less cry for loaders, and less shouting against small coal.

On several days between the 20th. and 31st. of August the Dominion Coal Co. raised over 16,000 tons. On those days the number of men off work was very small indeed. What a pity the men would not work more steadily, if they only would this large output would be a daily occurrence.

Mr. J. W. Marshall, Dalhousie's capable Mining Instructor, began his classes in surveying, &c. last Thursday Evening. Till then only seven pupils had enrolled, but the class should certainly be one of large numbers. The young men of Westville, Stellarton, and New Glasgow should avail themselves of the opportunity of acquiring the kind of knowledge to be obtained at these classes.

Mr. Sedgwick of the head office staff of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. paid a visit to the company's collieries ten days ago. For this reason, Mr. McColl says, it may surprise no one to learn that the August coal shipments of the Co.'s are the largest on record. Mr. McColl used the word "phenomenally" before the word "largest", but then he can say things that the Record dares'nt.

It is possible that small compressed air winches or engines similar to those in use, at Sydney No. 3 and Dom. No. 6, in the head ways, may be installed in the Reserve mines. These engines serve the same purpose as drums in balances, but do the work quicker and more economically. These head-ways are not steep enough to permit of balance boxes anyway. The small engines have so far proved a great success.

The extensive concrete work, many feet thick on all sides of the Allan No. 1 shaft for a distance of from fifty feet down, to the surface, is all but completed, and looks as if nothing less than an earthquake could shake it. There need be no fear now of the shaft being affected by lateral pressure under any circumstances. Some fifteen hundred barrels of cement and thousands of tons of slag and stone were consumed in the operations. The cement mixer has a capacity of thirty barrels per day off and on. The officials must be satisfied at the successful completion of a difficult piece of work.