

AROUND THE COLLIERIES.

Chignecto Mines is doing fairly well. The output at this colliery varies little.

Good work is being done this year at the Joggins. The output to date is away ahead of last year, probably to the extent of 40,000 tons.

The Conservative party are throwing off the shackles. The nomination last week of a straight party candidate in Cumberland was a slap in the face to the Herald.

The coal company is erecting a new boarding house at the Joggins, near to the colliery. The building is designed to accommodate the floating population during the coming winter.

Shipments to the St. Lawrence, owing to the mild weather, may not close quite so soon as expected. About the 20th. of November is the usual date on which navigation closes.

The Genl. Manager of the Dom. Coal Co. has intimated that banking on a big scale will be entered upon soon. Next season's bank is expected to be larger than any previous one.

The output at the Joggins is now 350 tons per day on single shift. There is pit room and equipment to handle between 600 and 700 tons daily. A drawback at present is shortage of miners.

There will be some fun it is thought when James McLaughlan, the informant, is put on the stand. An effort will be made to find out where he got all the information on which his information is founded.

The endless haulage system has been in operation at the Joggins for two months, and has proved successful in every way. The problem is not now how to get the coal off the bottom, but how to get it on the bottom.

In order to meet the expenses incurred by the mine operators in their attendance at court in Halifax it is possible that the price of coal may be increased ten to twenty cents a ton, to Halifax and Truro consumers chiefly.

And now they are saying that Joggins is the boom town in Cumberland County, though not very much is being heard about it. Since this time last year the company has erected forty-five new tenements. These are all occupied, and as many more could be filled at once.

Peter Patterson, Esq., organizer for the U. M. W., who up to date has been a failure, in his special line, in Pictou County, was invited by a bench warrant issued by Judge Leet—backed by Stipendiary Henderson of Stellarton—to proceed to a reception to be held in Judge Leet's court this week. So that Peter would not lose his way a Montreal courier was sent to accompany him.

The Maritime Gypsum Co., whose quarries are at Nappan, have secured a power line from Chignecto and are now employing electricity for lighting and general power purposes. An electrically operated aerial cableway now handles the output at a greatly reduced cost per ton.

Mr. Vannie Nicholson has been telling the Pictou people that the Dominion Coal Co. have been badly beaten. The Dominion Coal Co. people and the P. W. A. on the other hand believe that the U. M. W. are on the run. That is the RECORD's opinion, and the RECORD's advice is now that they are on the run to keep them going.

Work on the installation of a new 500 K. W. generator is being rushed at Chignecto, and a new transmission line is being completed. The line is 15 miles long and will connect with Joggins. This line will supply the towns of Maccan and River Hebert with light and power. The colliery at Joggins will use the power for lighting, pumping, and ventilating the mines.

The cross examination of Mr. Morrow in the dear coal conspiracy case was decidedly in favor of the operators. He declares there has been no increase in the price of coal since 1900; that of the 200,000 tons supplied Halifax the half of it was supplied by the small collieries; that instead of there being a combination there is keen competition—the market being limited.

Notwithstanding all that had been cabled in reference to defection from the ranks of the liberals, the budget passed the British House of Commons by a very large majority. The Nationalists refrained from voting, chiefly owing to the increased whiskey duties. Pity the Nationalists do not realize that whiskey has been Ireland's curse as it is the curse of other nations.

The Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. have been doing some boring in the submarine areas at Wabana and have been rewarded by the discovery that one of the untouched seams is of greater thickness than looked for. The RECORD will likely be in a position to give details of progress in next issue. Some people were inclined to make light of the figures published in the Montreal Star nine months ago. The figures did not exaggerate, possibly it was all the other way.

The P. W. A. has signed a two years' contract with the Dominion Coal Co. The terms and conditions are the same as in the last, with the exception that the underpaid laborers receive an advance of close on two dollars a month. It has been surmised for some time that the P. W. A. would not wait until the expiry of the present contract before making a new one. The U. M. W.'s have been assiduously preaching that the P. W. A. was too weak to cope with the Coal Company, and that any new contract would see a reduction of wages. This prediction has been belied. The signing of the contract by the company is equivalent to a declaration that it will recognize no union but the P. W. A.