

Around the Collieries.

A Cumberland correspondent writes:—In a recent issue of the Record reference is made to the cost of coal mining schools in the different counties. Cumberland does not show up well, to say the least. Is it fair to measure success by the number of candidates at the examinations, or rather the cost per successful candidate? As far as this county is concerned, the distance between mining localities adds to the expense, but I am free to admit that this is not sufficient to account for the difference per candidate. There is, however, an important phase of the work for which no credit is given. I refer to the mining science course in the public school. This work, I am inclined to think, was not carried on last year at Sydney Mines, Inverness and possibly not in Pietou County. In any case last year was a particularly lean one in this district, and this year does not promise much better in the way of results, but if a comparison were made for the past eight years, that is during the existence of the present system, Cumberland would appear in a better light.

The Dominion Coal Co. has inaugurated a new system of wages payments. Hitherto the pay days have occurred twice monthly, that means that there were four three weeks' pays each year. The complaint was made that a two weeks' pay was not sufficient to pay for a three weeks' supply. In order to remove that, and such like complaints, the company will pay every second Saturday, thus substituting twenty-six pay days in the year for twenty-four. The complaint as to inability to pay three weeks' supplies, when receiving only two weeks' pay, came in some cases from men earning from forty to forty-five dollars a fortnight. It is pitiful to think that thrift is at so large a discount among some men around the collieries. Earning ninety or even eighty dollars a month a miner should not only be able to keep himself and his family in comfort, but should be able to accumulate a respectable reserve fund. Though it has been drummed into their ears for thirty-five odd years many of our colliery workers have not realized the truth contained in the old Dutch proverb, "He who gets does much; he who keeps does more."

REVISED SECTION PICTOU COAL FIELD.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Notebaert, chief mining engineer of the Acadia Coal Co., we are privileged to publish a section of the Pietou Coal Field revised up to the 1st of March instant. The first part of the section, that is, up to and including the Stellar Oil Coal, is from Mr. Poole's report; the remainder shows what the boring, conducted by the Acadia Coal Co. in the year 1915 and up to March 1st, 1916, has revealed:

Main or Foord Seam.....	38 ft.
Measures	148 ft.
Cage Pit Seam.....	22 ft.
Measures	106 ft.
Third Seam	11 ft. 9
Measures	113 to 270
Purvis Seam	3 ft.
Measures	109 to 130
Fleming Seam	5 ft. 6
Measures	5 ft. 6

McGregor Seam	14 ft. 16
Measures	211 ft.
Stellar Oil Coal	5 ft.
Bore hole began on No. 5 level west of McGregor Seam.....	
Measures	34 ft.
Coal and Shale	7 ft. 5
Measures	1 ft.
Coal	21 ft. 9
Measures	14 ft. 4
Coal	3 ft. 6
Measures	128 ft.
Coal	5 ft.
Measures	32 ft.
Coal	1 ft.
Measures	0.4 in.
Coal	5 ft. 2
Measures	62 ft.
Coarse Coal	1 ft. 5
Measures	83 ft.
Coarse Coal	0.4
Measures	25 ft.
Coal	2 ft. 5
Measures	1 ft. 3
Coal	26 ft.
Measures	48 ft.
Coal	2 ft. 5
Coal and Shale mixed.....	2 ft. 6
Measures	74 ft.
Coal	20 ft. 4
Measures	36 ft.
Coal	1 ft. 6

PEACE AND PROFIT.

(By the Rev. Lord William Gascoyne Cecil, in the "Star," London.)

It is one of the remarkable results of war that those who avoid being entangled in it enjoy its profits.

One group of nations bleed and are vanquished, a second group of nations bleed and are victorious, a third do not bleed—and put all the money into their pockets.

I do not blame them, for they can scarcely avoid doing it; in fact, as a Christian one almost looks upon it as a thing for which we should thank God, for if the victors could accompany their song of triumph with the chink of gold, war would become such a popular thing that civilization would exist to the accompaniment of the drum-fire of big guns and the crash of falling buildings. The hope of civilization lies in this fact, that when the victor has sung his paean of triumph and the vanquished his dirge of woe, the peace-lovers walk off with the money.

In this case it will be especially true, because of the terrible cruelty and ferocity of this war.

Every rogue in Europe will take his ticket for America, while the patriot will hang on to the old country; and the patriot of the States will bring them face to face with new difficulties of which at present they are only vaguely aware.

America will be in danger of sinking into the slough of luxury.

Vice kills more than war, and pleasure enervates more than defeat. For the mud of self-indulgence now flows westward. Wealthy America will be face to face with the worst evils of Western civilization. Children will become fewer, the men more profligate,