

of materials, every assessment for Compensation Act, every additional cost entailed upon the carrying out of new laws, such as weekly pays, etc., etc., must come out of the pockets of the consumers, and the sooner they and the press realize this the better. The increase allowed by Mr. McGrath, it is declared, is far too great. How do those who make the assertion know? They cannot tell. Mr. McGrath can. Before arranging for increase in price, he had a thorough and independent audit made of the coal companies books, and that investigation revealed the fact that the companies were losing by selling at the price formerly fixed. Of course the smaller companies, who have shallow mines, will be great gainers, if they take advantage of the new maximum price.

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The member for North Cape Breton and Victoria has been telling the federal parliament its duty in respect to coal production. According to a despatch from Ottawa, to a Halifax paper, he advised the government to deal directly with the men who produced the coal. I wonder what he meant? In asking that more coal be produced are the operators to be overlooked, completely ignored? This is a new phase of the vexed subject, and the newspapers will please take notice and govern themselves accordingly. If there is a scarcity of coal in any district let them instead of censuring the officials, demand of the men why the production is not greater. If the men say they are working to their limit, and acknowledge that all the coal they cut is being taken from them, then the censor must get to work and procure more labor. D. D. is right in saying that Nova Scotia has magnificent deposits of coal, which could be converted into coke, and briquettes. Coal is now being converted into coke, but there is no reason that it should be converted into briquettes. These only are made from unsaleable coal, that is, from coal for which there is no sufficient demand. Slack coal. It would be a foolish thing to make briquettes so long as slack coal can all readily be disposed of either by itself or incorporated in run of mine. But is not D. D., a "little" off when he declares that N. S. Coal can be converted into electricity. That is something new, and should open the eyes of Nova Scotians to the fact that the province has a coal, the like of which has not yet been discovered in any part of the globe. We know provincial coal can be employed in the production of electricity; until now few were aware it could produce the genuine article. D. D. exaggerates a little in saying the coal supply is inexhaustible. That cannot be said of any County producing coal. Mr. Bob Butts, D. D.'s South C. B. neighbor, could not understand what members meant in talking of a coal scarcity. He asked members to explain the reason for the closing of a number of mines in N. S., in recent years? The explanation is so simple that no member explained. In the past three and a half years, mines have not been closed, indeed a number of new mines have been opened. When the mines were closed down, there was not the present active demand for coal. Indeed there was difficulty in making sales, and there was labor shortage.

THE AMENDING AND CONSOLIDATING OF THE COAL MINES REGULATION ACT.

Below will be found some of the amendments in the bill to consolidate the C. M. R. Act introduced into the House of Assembly by the Hon. Commissioner of Mines. The interpretations would take up unnecessary space. They are now given in alphabetical progression instead of in regular sequence of position from Manager down. After Agent, the highest official comes boy. If the Merchant Shipping Act has interpretations, then Cabin Boy will come first and the Captain come next, wedged in between him and the cook. Interpretations in the British Columbia Act are given in Alphabetical order, but then in that Act there are interpretations we never heard of, and don't want to hear of, in Nova Scotia. We give one or two of the new interpretations.

(c) "Colliery" means a mine, and includes two or more adjacent mines under the same control and ownership.

This interpretation is either unnecessary or it means something contrary to the act of 1913. This interpretation ought to be struck out. The word Colliery is not used in the largest coal producing country in the world. Look at an unabridged dictionary for the meaning of the word.

(k) "Mine Examiner" means a person appointed to inspect the working places of a mine and approaches thereto, the air ways, road ways and other accessible parts of a mine; and to see that such are safe before a shift is allowed to enter such workings or other parts of the mine; and to examine as to the safety of using and to supervise the use of the explosives used in breaking coal, and who is possessed of a Certificate of Competency as such, issued under this Act.

Managers.

(3). Subject to the next succeeding subsection if any mine is worked without there being such a manager for the mine as is required by the following sub-sections, the owner and agent shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

(4). Where the person appointed to be manager of a mine by reason of death, resignation or otherwise ceases to be manager, the mine may be worked for a period not exceeding fourteen days, until a new manager is appointed, if in the meantime a competent person holding a certificate as manager or underground manager under this Act is temporarily appointed to perform the duties and exercise the powers of a manager.

6. (1) In every mine required to be under the control of a manager, daily personal supervision shall be exercised by the manager, and, where an underground manager has been appointed by the owner or agent of the mine, also by that underground manager.

(2) In cases where, on account of the absence of the manager or underground manager on leave or from sickness or any other temporary cause, such daily personal supervision as is required by this section cannot be exercised, arrangements shall be made for the duties of the manager or underground

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