

has not acted wisely in beclouding the issue by submitting the name of Mr. Green.

Mr. Green's merits or demerits have nothing to do with the case. The chief point is to convince the government that a Portfolio of Mines is a necessity. After that the matter of selecting the Minister will take care of itself.

UNITED STATES COAL MINE ACCIDENTS

The monthly statements of coal mine accidents in the United States show a distinct improvement for the months of January and February, 1913, as compared with the corresponding months for the previous year. In January, 1912, there were 243 fatalities in and about coal mines. In February, 1912, there were 207. In January and February of this year, there were respectively 213 and 197. Thus the total for the two first months of this year is less by 40 than the total for the first two months of last year.

It is apparent that since the very inception of the vigorous campaign for installing life saving apparatus, the deaths per thousand men employed have steadily decreased.

For 1912 the figure was 3.15; for 1909 it was 4. Putting it in another way, for each death 233,000 tons of coal were produced in 1912, while for each death in 1909 only 173,000 tons were produced. Unless some disaster of extraordinary magnitude should occur this year the precautionary measures introduced by the United States Bureau of Mines will certainly have demonstrated their value.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The price of silver is holding most satisfactorily. At the Hollinger mine, Porcupine, the hydro-electric power is again available.

The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. reports a decidedly profitable year for 1912. According to their statement net profits of \$471,454 are shown.

The Lucky Jim zinc mine of British Columbia has hardly lived up to its name. At present it is reported to be in very serious difficulty owing to an accumulation of debts.

It is reported that the Quebec magnesia deposits have been taken over by a new concern having affiliations with United States investors. The crude material apparently is to be worked up into finished product at Newark, New Jersey.

BOOK REVIEW

AIR COMPRESSION AND TRANSMISSION—By H. J. Thorkelson—Associate Professor Steam and Gas Engineering, University of Wisconsin—207 pages—Illustrated with many diagrams and line cuts—Price \$2.00—Published by the McGraw-Hill Book Co., 239 West 39th St., New York, 1913—For sale by The Canadian Mining Journal, Toronto.

There already have been published a number of descriptive text books dealing with the mechanical principles and the actual use of air compression and transmission. In most of these books the attempt has been made to cover the whole subject. Mr. Thorkelson has confined himself to the methods of calculation, whereby the efficiency of any given system may be determined, or the needs of any given mine or other establishment, measured.

After a brief prefatory note in which the author points out that railway men were among the first to appreciate the uses of compressed air in shop and structure work, and that compressed air is used in over sixty different industries at present, the general text commences.

Chapter I. deals with the characteristics of air; Chapter II. with fundamental definitions; Chapter III. with the characteristic and energy equations for air; Chapter IV. with graphical diagrams; Chapter V. with air at pressures below the atmosphere; Chapter V., as indicated by its title, takes up vacuum pumps, the Sprengle air pump, the measurement of vacuums, condenser pumps, etc. The next Chapter has to do with air at low pressures. Under this heading come cupolas, ventilation, measurement of draft, fan efficiency, rotary blowing machines, and other cognate subjects. Chapter VII. is a discussion of piston compressors. Efficiencies and energy compensation form the subject matter of Chapter VIII. Chapter IX. is entitled Multistage Compression. Chapter X. is devoted to the mechanical details of piston air compressors. Chapter XI. touches on the design of turbo-compressors. Chapter XII. which is one of the most interesting in the book, compares the various types of hydraulic air compressors and the general principles involved. We note that the large Cobalt installation is not mentioned here. The effect of altitude on capacity and on power is the topic of Chapter XIII. Chapter XIV. touches the design of receivers, and the measurement and transmission of compressed air.

In the concluding Chapter the selection of compressors and matters pertaining to their general efficiency, are discussed. Three appendices, one a table of Common Logarithms, one a table of Napierian Logarithms, and one a short treatise on Hygrometric, conclude the volume.

REMOVAL NOTICE.

We wish to notify our readers that the offices of the Canadian Mining Journal have been removed from 10 Adelaide Street East, to the second storey of 44-46 Lombard Street, one-half block north, and two blocks east. The present offices will be much more commodious than those we have left.

The Canadian Mining Journal in its new quarters will possess the distinct advantage of having direct access to its own printing plant, which is housed in the basement of the same building. This fact we would request our readers to bear in mind. The plant referred to, is large and completely equipped.