

underground in the Slocan in order to get the personal evidence of his own eyes. The suit was one of trespass between the Slocan Star and the Rabbit Paw mining companies and the point at issue was as to the nature of a wall, which was described as a porphyry dike, the plaintiff claimed the dike to be faulted by a fissure and that the defendants were therefore trespassers.

#### NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

The International Coal and Coke Co., at Coleman, are shipping daily over 400 tons of screened coal. The culm is used at the coke ovens.

The Canadian-American Coal and Coke Co. is putting out 650 tons of coal a day. The endless-rope-haulage machinery will be installed and in commission by February 1st. Something over 200 men are on the pay roll.

The compressed air haulage system, installed in the mines of the International Coal and Coke Co., at Coleman, is working satisfactorily. The locomotive hauls from 25 to 30 loaded cars out to the tipple with ease, the load is about 50 tons. The company have some 86 coke ovens in operation.

The site selected for the zinc smelter at Frank, Alberta, is west of the town on ground lying between the No. 2 Tunnel of the Canadian-American Coal and Coke Co. and the river. This site permits of building smoke flues up the side of the hill to the stack which will be erected on top of the hill. The water supply will be taken from Gold Creek.

#### YUKON.

Three hundred men are wintering in the Kluane Lake country; the bulk of them being on Burwash creek.

The original discoveries on Ledge Creek will be idle during the winter and will have to wait for development until next summer.

Since the building of the Government road from Whitehorse to Kluane Lake was finished freights have fallen from 35 cents per lb. to 8½ cents.

In the trial of McKee vs. White Channel Gold Hill Hydraulic Co. judgment was reserved. The suit is brought to determine rights to the water from Irish and Big Skookum creeks.

The Lewes River Dredge and Mining Company, operating a dredge on Discovery Claim and Bonanza Creek, had during last summer to thaw all the ground work artificially. The ground thawed too slowly under the summer heat to keep the big dredge at work.

In the suit of Johnson versus Berggren the Sheriff sold the mining claim and machinery belonging thereto on Quartz Creek at public auction. The claim was on the right limit of the Creek, and has not been prospected to any considerable extent.

The Anglo-Klondike Company, Ltd., whose fiscal year closed on Sept. 30, showed a profit account of \$7,447 out of which the directors have declared a five per cent. dividend. The company has obtained an extension of its grant of water from Boulder Creek for a further period of ten years, or until July 9, 1920.

The Yukon "World" says that Tanana diggings are full of old machinery that has been shipped there from Dawson, chiefly boilers, and that not over one-half of them are serviceable. A surplus of boilers is reported. The same paper is authority for the statement that the town and district are "distressingly healthy," and that physicians have nothing to do in their profession.

The copper ore sent out from Whitehorse to the smelter at Ladysmith, B.C., was hauled 4½ miles to Whitehorse, then shipped by rail to Skagway, and then transhipped by steamer to Ladysmith. Something over 200 tons have been sent out from the Copper King mine this season. The values on the shipment are not made public, but the gold contents were considerable, and the shipment has more than paid expenses.

Additional reports, under date of November the 18th from the Duncan Creek country on the Upper Stewart River, confirm last month's reports of the shortness of provisions. It transpires that the steamer Prospector was wrecked about opposite the concession of the N. A. T. & T. Co., two miles below McQuesten Creek. The nearest point from which provisions can be obtained is Dominion Creek, the freight for which over the Range will be too exorbitant for most of the miners to pay.

Reports from Fairbanks under date of the 30th of October, state that there was no snow at that date in Fairbanks; the upper end of Chateneka Creek was frozen, but the lower end of the creek was free. It is also reported that few people are left at Circle City this winter. Provisions are said to be low in the camp at Fairbanks, and the probabilities are that many will have to leave that camp before winter is over owing to the scarcity of food. There are double the men in the camp that are needed.

The most costly litigation which has yet occurred in the Yukon Territory was terminated the last week in November by filing the judgment in the Clerk's Office of the Territorial Court of the decision of the Privy Council in the case of Belchers versus McDonald. This case has been on the docket for nearly four years and a half, and is the only Yukon case which has been carried to the Privy Council. The case had no particular relation to the mines, but is notable as the most bitterly contested suit yet fought in the courts of the Yukon.

This fall has seen preparations made for the opening of mining operations in the Alsek country on a scale which is much larger than is customary in the Yukon country. A New York syndicate has grouped all the claims on Bullion Creek from Discovery to 84 below, and is giving a lay on the entire block to receive 75 per cent. of the gross output, the remaining 25 per cent. of the profits to go to the owners. This syndicate is known as the Bullion Creek Hydraulic Company. It will freight from Whitehorse over the new government road some 250 tons of machinery and supplies during the winter. The company proposes building a saw mill at the mouth of Silver Creek, which is directly opposite Bullion Creek, across Lake Kluahne. The claims which have been grouped together will be hydraulic, as Bullion Creek is well adapted for such a method of work, as it has a heavy ground and abundance of water, few large boulders, and gravel that is free from frost. Between Discovery Claim and 84 below there is a drop altitude of about 500 feet. As the creek is about 20 miles long, and the heads in glaciers of the Coast Range, no scarcity of water during the summer season is apprehended.

## COAL NOTES

After modification the contract offered by the Dominion Coal Co. to its workmen has been accepted for a period of three years.

At Glace Bay nearly 2,000,000 tons of coal were raised in 1904 from the collieries of the Dominion Coal Co. at that place.

The output of the three collieries belonging to the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co., which are at Sydney mines, total 478,022 tons or 30,347 tons in excess of the figures for 1904.

The importations of anthracite coal from the United States in 1904 were 1,936,000 tons, against 1,430,000 tons for 1903. The importations of bituminous coal from the United States fell off some 233,000 tons.

The stoppage of the Sydney steel plant (due to the strike) was one of the causes why coal shipments for 1904 did not come up to expectations. Owing to the unusually late spring the shipment season was late in beginning and the summer was unusually irregular.

The Inverness Railway and Coal Co. made an innovation last season by sending a quantity of coal through the Lakes to Ontario ports. The business was probably not profitable, although the boats that took up the coal took down iron ore.

In some cases the average pay of the workers about the collieries in 1904 was increased. The Hon. R. Drummond figures that the average pay per day during the year 1904 for the Spring Hill miners was \$2.99, whereas the average wage for the year 1903 was \$2.88. The prophets put the production of Cape Breton County of 1905 at probably 4,000,000 tons, Inverness 350,000 tons, Pictou 750,000 tons, Cumberland 750,000 or a total of 1,200,000 tons more than 1904. It is not probable that this sum will be reached, but it shows what the collieries can do with their increased facilities for output; they do not attempt to say whether a market for all this increased product can be obtained.

One estimate of the shipments from the various Nova Scotia collieries for the year is as follows:—

Dominion Coal Company..	2,800,000
Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co..	480,000
Cumberland Railway and Coal Co..	420,000
Acadia Coal Company..	250,000
Inverness Coal Company..	240,000
Inverness Railway and Coal Co..	172,000
	<b>4,362,000</b>

In the month of November the output of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. was as follows:—

Coal Creek Colliery..	44,567 tons.
Michel Colliery..	22,253 "
Carbonada Colliery..	7,449 "
Total..	<b>74,569 "</b>

The coke made was as follows:—

At Fernie, with 390 ovens..	11,950 tons.
At Michel, with 345 ovens..	9,157 "
Total..	<b>21,107 "</b>

The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. has a total of 1,123 ovens.