

AROUND THE COLIERIES.

Springhill collieries from henceforth are to be known as District No. 5. of the Dominion Coal Co.

Visitors pronounce the Allan Shafts as a model in many ways. Though building operations are not yet quite completed, general tidiness prevails.

Harry Coll and his staff feel much more comfortable in their new offices than in the old shack—as a matter of course.

The I. C. R. coal inspectors are highly pleased with the coal presently being received from the Vale. It is free from material other than coal.

Canada imports more coal from the United States than is produced by all the collieries in Canada combined. Including anthracite there were imported in 1910 into Canada no less a quantity than eleven million seven hundred and fifteen thousand short tons of coal.

No attempt will be made to get into the old Foord pit until the full equipment of the Allan Shafts overground has been completed. In the mine there is no present need for development work, as there are sufficient places for all requirements for months.

Development work on the surface at the Allan Shafts is proceeding satisfactorily. The new boilerhouse is a creditable piece of work, and is said to be the best of its kind on the mainland. The boilers are at hand and will soon be set up.

The Acadia Coal Co. continues to make satisfactory increases in its outputs. Already this year the company is 73,000 tons ahead. At this rate of increase for the remainder of the year the increase over 1910 will be considerably over a hundred thousand tons.

Facing a duty of 53 cents a ton the U. S. sent, in 1910, over eight million five hundred thousand tons of bituminous coal into Canada. According to the reciprocity agreement the duty is reduced eight cents. Will this decrease enable the yankees to increase their exports to Canada.

The Robb Engineering Co., Amherst, Nova Scotia, and South Framingham, Mass., are building a return erset, N. S., and a boiler of the same type, 42 in. by 12 ft., for the Veniot Wagon Co., Ltd., Bridgewater, N. S. With this last order is included an 8 by 8 engine and stack.

The splendid showing in the matter of coal shipments made by the Dominion Coal Co. makes the RECORD hopeful that its prediction as to increased sales for 1911 will be more than fulfilled. The output for July was a record, and as the new collieries at Waterford on the Lingan side are rapidly opening up, there is no doubt that increases will be recorded month by month.

It is reported that the Port Hood Coal Co. are boring for coal on their area at some distance from the flooded slope. It is to be hoped that success will attend their efforts.

It is estimated that the I. C. R. will require 600,000 tons of coal this year. Last year the estimated consumption of 500,000 was exceeded by 30,000 and this year the railway is busier.

The output at the Allan Shafts is maintained at about 450 tons per day. No attempt at increase will be made till the two 1500 K. W. generators are installed which may not be for a few months yet.

The RECORD had better take no side in the present political campaign contenting itself with giving some figures which may be useful or otherwise to propagandists of reciprocity or their opponents.

Mr. J. C. McIntosh & Co. Bankers and Brokers have opened an office in New Glasgow, which is connected by direct private wire with the Halifax and other offices and with the exchanges.

Nova Scotia in 1910 sold 4,896,000 tons of coal all told, an increase of say 280,000 tons over 1909. In the same year the United States sent into Canada 8,627,000 odd tons being an increase of one million three hundred and fifty nine thousand odd tons.

If as has often been asserted there is a coal combine, or monopoly, in Nova Scotia it is a funny one. A combine is supposed to be for the maintenance of prices. Well the combine was unable this year to resist the reduction of twenty-five cents a ton made conditional in making contracts with the I. C. R.

A new slope is to be sunk on the Dominion Coal Co.'s areas at Birch Grove, Port Morien. The new slope is about two fifths of a mile from the trial slope. The coal is free, in large measures, from gas and is held to be an excellent coal for metallurgical purposes. It is possible therefore that the output of Birch Grove may be reserved for the Steel Works at Sydney.

It looks at this time as though Great Britain was undergoing similar experiences to those New Zealand went through before its adoption of the compulsory arbitration act. It was a strike of those employed in transportation necessitating the general public going to work as dockmen and stokers etc. that led to the enactment of compulsory arbitration.

Though for the seven months of this year the shipments of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co. are considerably less than for the corresponding period of 1910, improvement will be noticeable from this output. The decrease is chiefly due to the damage caused by explosion in one of the collieries, repairs have been affected and this pit which was a large producer will give better results.