

coal mining awaits us in Canada, particularly in the prairie country. It is very probable that here the work of mining will be easy and conditions of comparative safety may exist. Under these circumstances the use of naked lights may grow, as they have done in the United States, until we are awakened by something resembling the recent epidemic of disaster there. Nowhere in the world has coal mining been so easy as in the United States, and miners there have gone along from small things to the present day of huge mines and large outputs, until recent events have awakened the country to a belated consciousness that they are decades behind European practice in everything but the accumulation of dividends. We have no fear that such a state of affairs as exists in American mines will ever become the rule in Canada, but if due regard is had to safety in the day of small things, it will have become a habit in the day of larger things that is coming.

We, therefore, repeat the opinion that naked lights should be forbidden, and that nothing but properly approved and tested types of safety lamps be used in every coal mine in the Dominion, with the possible exception of very small mines employing only a limited number of men.

#### ONTARIO.

**Cobalt.**—Regulations in force at Cobalt Lake mine:—

##### Notice.

The quantity of explosives brought into the thawing-house shall not at any time exceed the requirements of the mine for a period of twenty-four hours, except where such requirements would be less than 100 pounds.—Mines Act, Sec. 164, Sub-Sec. 4.

The powder boxes shall be opened not closer than at least 100 feet distant from the thawing-house, and all sawdust carefully removed from the cartridges before they are taken to the thawing-house.—Mines Act, Sec. 64, Sub-Sec. 8.

The powderman shall keep the thawing-house and magazine clean and especially see to it that the floors are free from any sawdust in which the dynamite has been packed.

He shall see that the cans are at all times full of thawed dynamite.

He shall change the water sufficiently frequently for this purpose, using no water warmer than that in which a hand can be immersed without scalding.

He shall at least once a week thoroughly cleanse the cans with warm water and washing soda.

No machine man or other person shall approach or enter the thawing-house with a candle or other naked light, but in all cases is to use a lantern.—Mines Act, Sec. 164, Sub-Sec. 6.

Any machine man taking powder from the cans for firing

shall replace the amount taken with unthawed sticks from the racks so that the cans may at all times be kept full.

In preparing the charge, the fuse must on no account be threaded through the cartridge, but it must on all occasions be inserted in the end, and the wrapper securely tied with twine which is always provided for that purpose.

A charge which has missed fire shall not be withdrawn, but shall be blasted, and in case the missed hole has not been blasted at the end of a shift, that fact shall be reported by the foreman of shift boss to the mine captain or shift boss in charge of the next relay of miners before work is commenced by them.—Mines Act, Sec. 164, Sub-Sec. 10.

In blasting a miss-fire the tamping must not be removed by blowpipe or otherwise closer than six inches of the powder or of the cap which has missed fire.

The machine man shall also notify his partner on opposite shift of any miss-fire before work is resumed.

The employees who have occasion to raise the mine doors shall put up the guardrails or close the gates, as the case may be.—Mines Act, Sec. 164, Sub-Sec. 19.

Workmen may not be lowered or hoisted in shafts, in buckets, skips, or tubs.—Mines Act, Sec. 164, Sub-Sec. 23.

All workmen shall be at the mouth of each shaft at the beginning of every shift promptly as the whistle blows.

At the end of each shift or half-shift five minutes and no more before the whistle blows will be allowed workmen coming from the working face, except on Saturdays, when, except in case of firing, workmen shall remain on duty until relieved by the night shift.

Machine men must in no event use any gelignite that is not thoroughly thawed, and the holes shall be charged and fired as speedily as possible before it has time to freeze.

Any employee who absents himself from work without permission from the office or from the foreman will be discharged.

The machine man shall notify the hoist man at least two hours before he will be ready to fire, and the hoist man shall see that a sufficient quantity of powder is thawed by that time.

Unused sticks of powder or portions of sticks must not be left in the shaft-house or hoist-house, but must be taken back to the thawing-house.

Muckers must look for unused powder in the muck and give same to the foreman or shift boss, who shall put it in a place of safety.

**Ardoch.**—Work has been in active operation since September 14th, under the management of Mr. Geo. R. Rogers. A sample of fifty-five tons of ore has been mined from nine different veins on the property, including the 100-foot level, and run through the company's ten-stamp mill. The values recovered were satisfactory.

## GENERAL MINING NEWS.

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

**Halifax.**—Sensational reports, that lack confirmation, are being circulated concerning the discovery under romantic circumstances of rich silver veins. Credence cannot be given this story until full details have been secured.

Dr. Hugo Von Hagen, who is the originator of two bogus coal companies, one supposed to be operating on a large scale at Maccan, and one in New Brunswick, has chosen a name for the latter company that conflicts with an honest operating company. Von Hagen's Maccan property produces, we are informed, about 20 tons of coal per day. In spite of this his company has been paying dividends since August. He is pure fakir.

The output of the Dominion Coal Company for 1908 exceed 3,519,000 tons. This is an increase over 1907. The other coal mines of Nova Scotia will show good increases.

#### ONTARIO.

**Miller Lake.**—Native silver has been found on the White claim of Miller Lake Syndicate.

**Cobalt.**—H. P. Davis has organized a syndicate to work the Flynn property on Cross Lake, upon which native silver has recently been found.

The Cobalt Lake Mining Company has on hand, sacked and ready for shipment, three carloads of cobalt ore, two carloads of niccolite ore, and one carload of fair grade silver ore in the ore-house ready for cobbing.

The frame of the O'Brien concentrator will soon be erected.

The Coniagas mill has 20 stamps dropping.

Returns have been received from the two cars of ore shipped a fortnight ago by the Buffalo Company to the Copper Cliff smelter. One of the cars contained concentrates from the com-