

## AROUND THE COLLIERIES.

There are rumors to the effect that a new seam, or a continuation of one of the known seams, has been struck at Fox Brook. The Record awaits further information, prospectors as a rule being of those who are classed "sanguine."

One of the officials of the Nova Scotia U.M.W. took it into his head to lecture International President Lewis, and all but told him to mind his own business. Lewis has come back on the official by writing another official a flattering letter in which he declares that he—Lewis—looks upon him—Barrett—as a tower of strength to the whole order. That other official won't like being passed over.

Ten days ago a delegation of U.M.W. forefront men waited on the government demanding amendments to the compensation act. Among the score or more of delegates there was one conspicuous by his absence. Possibly the commissioner had written him after the fashion that Sir George Foster wrote to Flynn, viz: "If I am what you said I am, then if you believed it you don't want to see me, and if you said what you didn't believe then I don't want to see you."

*Loch Lomond  
Iron &  
Coal* It looks as if C. B. county was to experience another of its periodical booms. Not only is coal but iron to be sought for and worked. There are, it is alleged, two seams of coal at Loch Lomond. One of these is five foot thick. It is alleged to be "coal" for a ton of it tested, at Sydney presumably, turned out fair coke. The other seam, if the analysis is correct, is not coal. The quantity of sulphur in it is negligible, so much so that it is either bitumen or first class oil shale. It is to be hoped that the holders of the areas will have practical tests made of stuff from both seams. The government might take a hand in determining the value of the seams, and thus set anxious minds at rest.

In the junior output contest it looks, at the present time, as if the Port Hood Coal Co. was to be an easy winner. With two such energetic men at its head as Maleom Beaton and Dan McLellan, this is not surprising. The present output of this new mine ranges from 250 to 290 tons a day, but in the near future this output must be largely increased, as the company has closed a contract with one concern for a hundred thousand tons. That means a daily average output for the remainder of the year of at least 400 tons. The principals are confident this output can be attained. The mining business has had a markedly beneficial effect upon "Danny." His step is more elastic and his face wears the sort of smile of which it is said "it won't wear off." The example set by Port Hood should not be lost on the other contestants. There is still room near the top.

A delegate to the Truro U. M. W. Convention who used a non parliamentary term in a reference to Mr. Moffatt, formerly Grand Secretary of the good old P.W.A., has been challenged, under a forfeit of fifty dollars, to make his ribald assertion good. Men of the stamp of the utterer of the slander are not, as a rule, other than cowardly, and the challenge is not likely to be accepted. The Record inclines to the opinion that vituperation, of the Truro U.M.W. convention kind, had better best be answered by the silence that implies contempt.

The mainland collieries for March show up well as compared with March of last year, and the increase for the three months ending 31st March is also gratifying. Scotia shipments show a large increase, and, so far, has a good lead in the six hundred thousand tons for the year, contest. The Dominion Coal Co. should soon be showing a forward stride and eclipsing outputs for the past three years.

The scarcity, combined with the high price of coal has led to inquiries by Americans as to the possibilities of securing unworked areas, or working collieries in Nova Scotia. These have been told that they can be accommodated in both directions, or rather that they can secure worked areas and a colliery now idle. It was pointed out to two American visitors that there were unworked areas on the south side of Cow Bay, C.B., and an idle colliery at Broughton, C.B. They might also have been directed to the several mining counties. It is reported that one or two new discoveries have been made in Pictou; in Inverness there are St. Rose, Chimney Corner and Mabou, and there are, it is alleged, numerous unworked small seams in Cumberland Co., but that county at present is in disfavor. The Fenwick affair has given the county a back seat for a time.

A year or more ago the Record called attention to a piece of coal obtained at Kempton by Mr. Lithgow, of New Glasgow, which, on being tested, showed such a large percentage of Carbon that it was declared to be a coal which if it might not be called anthracite, was entitled to be named semi-anthracite. The coal has been worked for some time but did not attract much attention, first because a fault was encountered and secondly because for a time the coal was not properly prepared for market, the necessary machinery for doing so being lacking. The original lessee got tired of his ventures and was prepared to make a sale. Buyers were found, with Mr. Jennison, M.E., Truro—the layman who downed the Amherst lawyer on the Malagash salt discussion—as the chief mover. This new company have taken hold of the property, and intend to make a real coal mine on it, and put up a plant