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CIRCULATION.

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FIRE FIGHTING IN COAL MINES.

The first important call upon the Draeger equipment at the Dominion Coal Company's Rescue Station came on September 10th. A fire in one of the collieries of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company threatened to do great damage. Unprotected miners found it impossible to get within fighting distance of the trouble. A call sent to the Dominion Coal Company met with a prompt response. Instructor James McMahon was despatched with 22 trained men from Dominion collieries 2, 9, 1, 3 and 5. Under singularly adverse circumstances the men, with the aid of the Draeger equipment, fought the fire at close quarters. The heat was so intense that it was possible for each relay to work only ten minutes at a time. Had the call come sooner, or had the Nova Scotia Company possessed an equipment of their own, flooding need not have been resorted to.

We have given a prominent place to Mr. Gray's article on the above-mentioned occurrence, especially because he emphasizes the national character of rescue and fire-fighting work in mines. The nations are awakening to a live sense of their duty in the conservation of natural resources. One most lamentable source of waste and loss is the colliery fire. The only practical safeguard is a well-trained corps of men, properly equipped with modern respiratory apparatus.

LARDER LAKE.

We are glad to present in this issue a short note on Larder Lake from Mr. H. L. Kerr. Our readers will observe that Mr. Kerr writes in a hopeful strain. In effect he states that from his personal examination of the district, there is justification for prospecting and exploratory development. Beyond this we think no competent mining man will go. It is true that striking gold specimens have been found. But the relatively small amount of sinking, drifting or tunnelling performed leaves the camp still to be classed as problematical. High purchase prices and capitalizations running into the millions have been and are the worst drawbacks from which Larder Lake can suffer. When a few payable ore shoots have been delimited and their value ascertained, there will be something to work on. Meanwhile good roads, fewer newspaper puffs, honest work and less talk are needed.

PARIS GREEN.

Out of 72 samples of Paris green examined in the year 1895, five were declared doubtful and 15 were found to be unmistakably adulterated. Of late years, doubtless on account of the fact that the Dominion