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Maritime Mining Record

DEC. 28 1910

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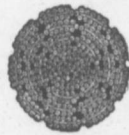
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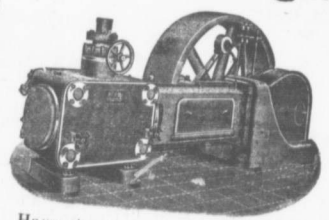
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SCREENS made of HARD STEEL
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Halifax, N. S.

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Halifax, Nova Scotia.

EDUCATION AND MINE ACCIDENTS

P. J. Moore, mine inspector for the first anthracite district Pennsylvania, states that the educational work among the miners, in his district, has had the effect of reducing accidents by 50 per cent.

The mining institution at Carbondale, the center of the first district, is supported by the Pennsylvania Coal Co. and the Hillside C. & I. Co. (known as the Erie Cos.), the Temple Iron Co., and the Delaware & Hudson Co., acting in co-operation with the anthracite committee of the Y. M. C. A.

Inspector Moore made the statement, as to the reduction of accidents, at the opening of a new institute that the Su-quehanna Coal Co. is starting in Shamokin.

"I have occasion to know what the work has accomplished," he said, "because it is my business to collect the statistics of accidents to life and property. This institute work is the most useful agency yet devised to reduce accidents in the mines. It teaches the men to protect themselves and others. 'First-Aid-to-the-Injured' is a good institution but I call this 'First-Aid-to-the-Uninjured' still better. Preventive is better than cure."

The chief of the Department of Mines of the State of Pennsylvania has instructed all the State Inspectors to give their aid to the mining companies and the anthracite committee in extending

the educational work.

A HINT TO LEGISLATORS

The following letter has been written by Mr. Thomas Homes, secretary of the Howard Association England:—

Will you kindly allow me space to point out the effects of the Budget upon the prison population in England and Wales, Ireland and Scotland? I have before me the last report of the Prison Commissioners, and I find that during 1909 the commitments to prison in England and Wales were 5,416 less than the commitments of the previous year. In Scotland the commitments showed a decrease of 1,363 upon the previous year.

The Prison Commissioners for Scotland, in their report, make it very plain that it was the Budget that effected this great reduction; the rise in the price of spirits took effect at the end of April, 1909, and from that date the prison population began to decline. The Commissioners' figures show that the reduction took place in the last eight months of the year. I do not wish to make any comment, but merely to point out that if the Prison Commissioners are to be believed, the Budget kept nearly 15,000 people out of prison. As every prisoner costs the State £30 per year it is easy to see the benefit which accrued to the community.



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Titles direct from the Crown
At Moderate Royalties.

GOLD AND SILVER.

Licenses are issued for prospecting for Gold and Silver for a term of twelve months. They comprise areas 150 by 250 feet, and any number can be obtained, at a cost of 50 cents per area. Leases of any number of areas can be obtained, at a cost of \$2.00 per area, for a term of 40 years; subject to an annual rental of 50 cents per area.

Licenses are issued to quartz mills, which make returns and pay royalty on the gold at the rate of two per cent, on milled Gold valued at \$19.00 per oz.

Minerals other than
Gold and Silver.

—LICENSES TO SEARCH—

over five square miles for eighteen months, cost \$30.00; leases for four renewable terms of twenty years each can be selected from them at a cost of \$50.00, and are subject to an annual rental of \$30.00

All titles, transfers, etc., are recorded free of charge by the Department. The royalty on coal is 10 cents per long ton, and on other minerals in proportion.

The Gold District covers over three thousand square miles, and the deposits of coal iron ore, etc., are practically unlimited.

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Commissioner of Public Works and Mines Halifax N. S.



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PRIESTLEYS' *Mohairs and Lustres*
Have Excellent Wearing Qualities

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“Speedy” Coal Boring Machines, “Acme” Ratchet Rock Boring Machines, Miners’ Tools, Copper Headed Stemmers Copper Pointed Needles, Miners’ Picks, Mauls, Wedges, and other mining appliances.

Quality of material and Excellence of Workmanship
 —is the motto of the Firm.—

The firm a month or two ago secured an order from the Maritime Coal, Railway & Power Co., Ltd., 200 pit tubs. So highly satisfactory was the work that the first order was, after receipt of the tubs, duplicated.

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We solicit an opportunity to figure on your Car Haul requirements

Write for Bulletin 21.



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TORONTO: 174 King Street E.

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Cote and LaGauchetiere Streets.

To His....

MARITIME MINING RECORD

Vol. 13, No. 12

Stellarton, N. S., Dec. 28 1910.

New Series

IRON AND STEEL.

(From The Annual Report on the Mineral Production of Canada.)

The iron and steel industry in Canada in 1909 shows a very satisfactory and steady growth as compared with previous years.

There was a larger production of iron ore than in 1908; an increased output of pig iron from Canadian blast furnaces and a larger production of steel ingots and castings; while the imports of pig iron and of iron and steel goods more or less highly manufactured were greatly diminished.

Although iron ores are of wide occurrence throughout Canada, being found practically in every province, the development of these resources has not kept pace with the growth of our iron metallurgical industries.

About 17 per cent only of the iron ore used in Canadian furnaces during 1909 was of domestic origin. Much of the coke and limestone was also imported, so that our iron industries are now, and have been for a number of years, largely dependent on imported raw materials.

The total production of iron ore in Canada to the end of 1909 has probably only slightly exceeded 5,000,000 tons, while our present rate of production varies from 300,000 to 400,000 tons per annum.

There were shipped from Newfoundland in 1909 about 1,110,010 tons of ore, of which about 697,068 tons were sent to Canada for use at Sydney. Since 1896, or during the last fourteen years, we have imported 7,521,086 tons of iron ore, chiefly from Newfoundland and the south shore of Lake Superior. As against this we have exported during the same period about 1,556,996 tons, chiefly to the United States.

Developments are in progress, however, which may in the near future furnish a much larger supply of domestic ore. Active operations are in progress at Torbrook, N. S., and extensive preparations being made to ship from the large magnetite deposits near Bathurst, N. B. The Moose Mountain mine, north of Sudbury, of which much has been expected, shipped an important tonnage during 1909, and development work has been continued. Operations have been started on a deposit twenty-four miles east of Port Arthur, the first in this district, and some initial shipments made. A magnetometric survey was made of the old Bristol mine, Pontiac county, Quebec, by an officer of the Mines Branch, resulting in the discovery of the probable existence of a considerable ore body apparently not previously known.

The production of pig iron and steel is still

confined to the eastern half of Canada, chiefly, in the Provinces of Ontario and Nova Scotia. There are sixteen blast furnaces, with a total daily capacity of about 2,735 tons. Of the sixteen, twelve have a daily capacity of 100 tons or over. The production of pig iron and steel in 1909 was the highest year's production yet turned out by Canadian furnaces. The bounty which has been paid on iron and steel production ceases at the end of 1910, although provision is still made for the payment of the bounty on pig iron produced by electric process to the end of 1912.

The difficulties which have arisen between the Dominion Coal Company and the Dominion Iron and Steel Company, respecting the supply of coal to the latter, and which had to a considerably extent interfered with the Steel Company's output, were satisfactorily settled in the early part of the year, enabling the Steel Company to bring its production again up to normal and provide extensions of its plant, which will include an additional furnace, new coke ovens, and a finishing mill. Towards the close of the year, negotiations were in progress looking to the amalgamation of the two companies, which have since been successfully concluded. A new steel plant was being built at Londonderry, while various additions and extensions to plants were being made in Ontario.

The Algoma Steel Company has made arrangements for the construction of an additional blast furnace of 100 tons capacity, and the erection of a merchant mill for the manufacture of structural steel. Arrangements were also being made for the construction of by-product coke ovens sufficient to supply the steel plant with all the coke it will need.

The total shipments of iron ore in Canada in 1909 were: Quebec, 4,150; Ontario, 233,833 or a total of 268,043.

Nova Scotia.—No iron ore is reported as shipped from mines in this Province during 1909. The furnaces at Sydney and North Sydney received their supplies from Newfoundland and chiefly, while the Londonderry furnace, which is usually run on local ores, was out of Commission throughout the year.

The Canada Iron Corporation Limited, continued to develop their properties at Torbrook, and a quantity of ore was taken out, although none was shipped.

A railway spur has been built from the mines to connect with the Halifax and Southwestern Railway track at Nictaux, and ore shipments are to be made from Port Wade, at which place large ore pockets are to be constructed. The same company has acquired the iron deposits at Austin

Brook, near Bathurst, New Brunswick. A railway has been constructed connecting the ore deposits with the Intercolonial railway and shipping built at Newcastle.

Quebec.—The production of bog ores in this Province is growing less year by year. During 1909, only 3,330 tons were shipped to furnaces, in addition to which a small tonnage of iron sands was shipped for experimental purposes.

A magnetometric survey was made of the Bristol mine, Pontiac county, by Mr. E. Lindeman of the Mines Branch, and a special bulletin has been published giving the results thereof. No shipments have been made from this mine since 1897, but between 1889 and 1897, inclusive, according to returns made to this Department, the mine shipped 29,815 tons. Mr. Lindeman sums up the results of his investigations as follows:—

"The magnetite occurs in parallel beds and lenticular-shaped bodies along the stratification of hornblende and micaceous schists. The association of the magnetite and these gangue minerals seems to be very intimate and in places, complete gradations exist between masses of magnetite and these rocks. Numerous intrusions of granite in the iron-bearing strata seem also to have had an important bearing on the horizontal extent of the deposits as well as on their depth, cutting them into irregular masses, and rendering their extent in depth uncertain. To judge from the irregular magnetic curves, and the numerous exposures of granite, this state of affairs seems to exist round Shaft No. 1.

"It is manifest that the unprofitable mining operations carried on some years ago were largely due to the irregularities of the ore bodies; to primitive methods of working; and to the long haul from the mine to Pennsylvania, U. S.

"On the other hand, the present investigations indicate that lot 22, and the east part of lot 21, contain some promising deposits. The most important of these is on lot 22; the approximate area of which has been estimated at 90,000 square feet. As this deposit is practically all covered by a heavy loam, and taking into consideration the intimate association of the magnetite with the schistose rocks in the other parts of the fields, it is evident that no definite statement can be made with regard to the tonnage of iron ore in this deposit; but as far as it is now possible to judge from the strong, even, magnetic attraction, there is every reason to conclude that the deposit is of considerable magnitude. In order to ascertain the precise character and quantity of these ore reserves, systematic development in the form of diamond drilling will be necessary."

Ontario.—This Province shows a considerably increased tonnage in iron ore shipments in 1909, due chiefly to a larger output from the Helen mine. There were five shipping mines, as compared with four during 1908.

No shipments were made by the Wilbur, in Lanark county, but the Atikokan mines, west of Fort Arthur, were reopened; while the Dominion Bessemer Ore Company, of Philadelphia, opened up an iron property about twenty-three miles east of Fort Arthur, on Thunder bay, and shipped a quantity of ore in two grades, No. 1 running 25

per cent iron, and No. 2, 40 per cent. It is intended to equip the property with crushers and jigs, so as to prepare the ore for market; and raise the percentage of metallic iron content.

From the Helen mine at Michipicoten, shipments were made to Hamilton and Sault Ste. Marie, exclusively, no ore being sent to the United States, during 1909. The plant at the mine is now entirely electrically driven, taking about 400 horse-power. The Moose mountain mine, in Hutton township, shipped chiefly to the United States, although one shipment each was made respectively to Sydney, N. S. and Hamilton, Ont. Shipments were also made from the Mayo mine in Hastings county, operated by the Canada Iron Corporation, Limited, under lease, the ore being shipped to Midland and Rador.

PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON IN CANADA.

Provinces.	1908.	1909.
Nova Scotia	352,642 tons	345,380 tons
Quebec	6,709	4,770
Ontario	271,484	407,012
Total	630,835	757,162

The increased production in 1909 has been due to the greater activity of the Ontario furnaces, there having been a decreased production in both Nova Scotia and Quebec. For the first time since 1891 the Ontario production has exceeded that of Nova Scotia. The proportions of the whole contributed by the several provinces were, in 1909: Nova Scotia, 45.6 per cent; Ontario, 53.8 per cent; and Quebec about 0.6 per cent. In 1908 the proportions were: Nova Scotia, 56 per cent; Ontario, 43 per cent, and Quebec about 1 per cent. During the past five years the production has exceeded 500,000 tons annually; while from 1898 to 1904 the production ranged from 100,000 tons to 300,000 tons per annum.

Sudd, a weedy growth which constantly blocks the Nile for the distance of the 300 miles or so known as the Sudd District, can be converted into fuel. By a process invented and tested in Germany the weed is ground to powder and made into briquettes, which burn readily, and have a heating power nearly two-thirds that of coal. This discovery of a supply of cheap local fuel is of great significance to the future of the Soudan.

Sir Joseph Ward has laid before the New Zealand Parliament the motions which he proposes to bring before the Imperial Conference. These include the setting up of an Imperial Council, the reconstitution of the Colonial Office, extension of the powers of High Commissioners, universal penny postage, development of telegraphic communication within the Empire, an All Red mail route between England and Australia via Canada, an Imperial Court of Appeal, and wider legislative powers for the oversea Dominions with regard to shipping.

MARITIME MINING RECORD.

The MARITIME MINING RECORD is published the second and fourth Wednesday in each month.

The RECORD is sold at the Office of the Secretary of the Mining Association for \$1.00 per copy.

Advertising rates, which can be had, are published on application.

Subscription \$1.00 a year, in Advance Single Copies 5 cents.

R. DRUMMOND, PUBLISHER.

14ELMARTON, N. S.

December 23

LOSS OF POPULATION.

A contemporary a short time ago said: "The coal operators have declared against reciprocity in coal; but should they not also suggest something that would make the other parts of the province prosper." In our opinion when they suggest that there shall be no interference with the coal tariff they are suggesting what has tended and will continue to tend to make other parts of the province prosperous. The farmers of Cumberland, Colchester, Pictou, Antigonish, Inverness and Cape Breton are having the time of their lives. Even the farmers hens have got the notion in their heads that owing to the general prosperity they are justified in refusing to market any more eight cent eggs and demand thirty-five cents a dozen for an article no bigger than was sold twenty years ago at the price first named. Pullets that a few years ago were a drag on the market at a quarter a pair are now in demand at about three times that price. Good country butter is about three times the price it was when the coal mines were not busy. Further our contemporary says: "Nova Scotia is losing its farming population, the bone and sinew of the province. What will save it? For our part we feel like trying some change, even if a desperate one." In answer to the question 'What will save it', our answer is: There is no known remedy, and most assuredly reciprocity least of all. A C. B. contemporary referring to the loss of population says: "Our young men leave the farms of Nova Scotia not to go to the United States so much as to go West." But let it be admitted that numbers of our bone and sinew leave for the U. S. Why do they go? They go because across the line there are larger cities and larger opportunities. If Halifax were a Boston, and Amherst a Providence, surrounded by large sized towns, there would be little emigration. The cry of loss of rural population is common these days, and is by no means peculiar to Nova Scotia. Free trade Britain utters the cry as does Germany where greater inducements are held out for farmers to stick to the land than in any country of the world. No inducement offered is seemingly strong enough to overcome the temptation of seeing life. As far as the people leaving the country districts go, our big neighbors across the line are in as sore straits as little Nova Scotia find a cure to prevent the rush to the cities. An American exchange says:

"As the census returns by States become available, continued evidence is had that the agricultural districts are to-day, in a business way, not what they were in years gone by, as a decrease in population is shown in practically all farming districts, while the industrial centers in nearly all cases show a substantial increase, especially in the case of the larger cities.

In Pennsylvania there are 67 counties of which only 42 show an increase of over 2,000 during the past ten years. There are in that State 18 counties in which there was a decrease in population and seven others in which the gain was less than 2,000. Fifteen of the counties show a decrease in the number of inhabitants in comparison with 20 years ago, the decrease being invariably in the agricultural districts."

And, more to the point the American paper says: "In West Virginia there are fifty-five counties. . . . There is only one county in the State which shows a decrease in comparison with twenty years ago. The development of the coal resources in this State can be safely counted as the reason there was as favorable a population showing made." And had there not been a revival in the coal trade of the province the probability is that the next census would be very disappointing. That it is not poor times that causes the depopulation of the rural districts is abundantly evident. What good would reciprocity with the United States do the farmers of the counties we have named? Is not the market, the demand for their products larger than they can supply, and is it in them to find fault with the prices realized for the things they have to sell. Any farmer who would complain as to present trade conditions is surely most unreasonable.

CITIZENSHIP

Mr. T. McKinnon Wood, M. P., speaking at Glasgow on the duties of citizenship, among other things said, and we commend his words to mayors, councillors, and electors:

"A good citizen was a living force; he made himself part of the life of the State or city. It was a great thing to have free institutions, but it was not everything. Two other things were necessary. They must have men willing to work these institutions, and they must have people to take such interest in them that they would see that the right men were chosen. If free institutions were to work all the good they ought to do people would have to take the trouble to work them. He asked them not to shrink but to take their part, and not for any decaying garland of honour or reward. The best work was done for no such garland, indeed it might well be that when a man was doing his best work he would find that instead of the garland of praise he was met with the frown of censure. But when his work was done, and he was able to review it quietly outside the dust and heat of action, he would see that his greatest satisfaction was not to be found in the things he had done among popular applause and for which honours came, but for something in the doing of which he was misunderstood and misrepresented. It was the business of every citizen to understand what was being done, what principles were being followed, and then to take the trouble to think things out for themselves. It was a most vital thing for a nation to have a sound public sentiment and a sound public intelligence."

- Rubs by Rambler.

In the Herald a few weeks ago, Jas. B. McLaughlin, U. M. W. Secretary, had a letter in the Herald, I think, showing how well off the Nova Scotia operators were, in the prices they received for coal, as compared with the B. C. operators, and how wretchedly poorly paid the Nova Scotia miners were in comparison with those of British Columbia. At the time the RECORD mildly hinted that Mr. McLaughlin did not know very well what he was talking about, and there is now abundant confirmation of that opinion. Mr. McLaughlin appealed to all sorts of authorities. The RECORD is content to rely on official authority alone. First as to the extraordinary profits of the Nova Scotia operators as compared with those of B. C., the Report of the Federal Department of Mines places the price of B. C. coal at \$3.50 per ton, and that of Nova Scotia coal at \$2.25 a ton, in each instance a ton of 2240 is meant. In other words the B. C. operators value their coal more than fifty per cent. higher than the Nova Scotia. If the cost of B. C. coal is \$3.50 per ton how do they manage to continue in business and sell coal f. o. b., as stated by the authority quoted at \$2.12 or \$1.38 less than what it costs them? Of course the average prices in both cases are taken, and the year 1909 instead of some year in the misty past.

And then we are told the miners of Nova Scotia are miserably paid in comparison. Let it be admitted their wages are a little lower, so also is the cost of living, not, however, a little but much lower. But that is not all, nor is it by any means the most important difference. In British Columbia in ten years there were 470 fatal accidents, an average of forty-seven per year. In other words B. C., with fifty per cent. less production has fifty per cent. more fatal coal mining accidents, and that, too, though the vigilant eye of the U. M. W. is fastened on the mines. Yes it may be true that the miners in British Columbia earn a little more wages, but what of the death toll they pay. "What should a man gain in exchange for his soul". That is a question. Taking 1909, in which year there was no big mining disaster in either province, it will be found that in B. C. the fatal accidents were nearly twice as many per thousand men employed as in Nova Scotia. It is not pleasant to be making these comparisons, but they are necessary in order to show that if the U. M. W.'s are in a position to secure higher wages for their members, they are either careless, regardless or powerless in securing things of much greater importance.

The Dartmouth Patriot is, it must be granted, outspoken, and patriotic too, but in its own way. Referring to the threatened reduction in Maritime Provinces representation it says:

"Not until members saw their seats in danger did they bestir. The members of these provinces sitting at Ottawa, have not been worth their salt. The interests of the people have been neglected. They did not look for a remedy when they saw the young men of strength and ability leaving to build up other places. They never turned a hand but let them go unregarded. The reward is now being reaped.

"There is no reason why Quebec province should grow faster than these. This province at least should grow faster than any in old Canada. Rank indifference to our needs is the trouble, no proper railway develop-

ment, no commercial ports being built, the vast and profitable fisheries wilfully and scandalously neglected, the building of ships discouraged until it has become a lost art, and to cap the climax hostile traffic charges, which make it impossible for shippers to get freights on fair terms over the government road, have been applied.

"When members have these things remedied as they easily can if they are insistent then indeed will the premiers not have to go to Ottawa, finger in mouth, asking favors."

There is force in what is said relative to the want of gumption of our members, but is the Patriot so sore on the coal trade, because he has to pay a few cents more on the ton than is paid in Pennsylvania, that he has not a word of encouragement for it, an industry that is bound to be linked with the future of Nova Scotia, if not to be the leading factor in making that history. There are no decreases in population where coal mining is being carried on, and when the next census is taken I will be very much surprised if the only counties in Nova Scotia showing noticeable gains are not the counties where coal mining is prosecuted.

Politicians and papers made remarkable summersaults during the recent British Electoral Campaign. Here is an instance of this and how the Glasgow Herald is nicely reminded of it by a correspondent:—

"Sir,—I find strong commendation expressed in two leading articles in your issue of to-day of the latest device of the Tory party to obstruct the right of the people to assert their will in legislation through their duly elected representatives. I extract two sentences as illustrative of your opinion to-day:—

There is a real democratic principle involved in the demand of the Unionist party that grave questions shall be submitted to the referendum, to the actual test of the electors' vote. . . . Nothing more simple, nothing more essentially democratic could be contrived than that reference to the real "voice of the people" which the Unionist party advocates as the solution of our constitutional difficulties."

No doubt three weeks is a tremendously long period in the political history of these recent days, and you cannot be held to opinions expressed at such a distant date, but you will never perhaps not object to produce the concluding words of your leading article of November 10:—

The Unionist leaders can have no special affection for the referendum. It is a thoroughly democratic device, no doubt; but it does not seem to accord with the spirit of British Parliamentary institutions. It works well in Switzerland because the Swiss Federal Assembly is an Assembly of delegates. Moreover the referendum would cause new complications of which it is difficult to see the end. If a ministry with a fair-sized majority took a referendum on a bill and the result were adverse Ministers would resign. But if the vote were favourable it is quite likely that Ministers would appeal to the country to get a renewal of office. On the whole then, we do not feel any great regret at the Cabinet's refusal to consider the proposal to institute a referendum in special cases."

There stalk these days of the pulpit losing its power. If it is any consolation to the down hearted a similar thing may be said of the press. With three-fourths of the London papers tory, London went largely liberal and with two influential tory papers for every influential liberal paper, Scotland stuck like a burr to the liberal party.

The Montreal Star says—Mr. Hector McInnes, K. C., is the new vice-president of the Cumberland Railway & Coal Co., and no better man could be found to tackle the almost helpless situation at Springhill.

Mr. McInnes is thoroughly posted on the situation there, having been the chief legal adviser of the company under the old management.

The Mining Record says: "With the exception of the leading coal operators, there is no one in the province who knows so many ins and outs of coal mining as Mr. McInnes."

Why should the Star use the words "almost helpless situation at Springhill." Did not a portion of the press and all of the U. M. W. leaders in Springhill make affidavit that the cause of all the trouble was the presence of Mr. Cowans, and that the ready solution of the situation was his absence. Well, he has gone and the way is clear. The removal of Mr. Cowans will never relieve the situation. That can be done however in a very simple way. Let the unionists at Springhill renounce the U. M. W. or let the U. M. W. renounce their claim to recognition. They may as well do it first as last, for it is a solemn truth that the present controllers of the company have no intention of doing so. As the position of Pres. Vice-Pres. Secy-Treas. and controllers of the steel corporation are not sinecures the RECORD will not be a bit surprised if Mr. McInnes who is now overworked should resign as soon as Senator Forget, now ill in Europe, returns.

The British unionists are very much put out. They rave like lunatics and are as illogical and inconsistent as they make them. For instance Right Hon. Thos. Andrews, president of the Ulster Liberal Unionist Association, says:—

"Every man in the United Kingdom knows that Mr. Redmond can turn Mr. Asquith out of power any day he wishes. Mr. Redmond is Premier Asquith's master. Patrick Ford with his American dollars is Mr. Redmond's master. Thus the pitiful situation is reached of having Patrick Ford governing the British Empire. Ulster will never submit. I do not think an officer could be found in the British army to give the order to his men to fire on the loyalists of Ulster. That indeed would be a spectacle the like of which the world has never seen before."

If Mr. Redmond tried to upset the government on account of its refusal to grant all his demands, it is as plain as a pike staff he could only do so with the assistance of the unionists, and surely, surely, President Andrews and the unionists members would be the last to assist in such a diabolical scheme. The Fords and Redmonds can only do wrong with the assistance of the unionists, and these should not forget that important fact

Referring to the readjustment of the tariff the Toronto Globe says:

"Speaking for itself, the Globe hopes that readjustment will take the form of relieving Nova Scotia of the burdens said to be borne for the benefit of the Ontario and Quebec industries and agriculturists rather than by the increase of the tax on pig iron and steel. How to cheapen the cost of production and so increase the margin of profit in Nova Scotia's greatest industry is one of the most urgent problems of the day. Nova Scotia has ore, coal and labor of the highest efficiency. Why should she not produce pig iron as cheaply as Britain, Germany, or the United States? It is just possible that she does. In settling that point, the experts whom Sir

Wilfred proposes to appoint to unravel tariff puzzles should be able to supply much valuable information."

The government cannot do impossible things. It cannot assist to cheapen coal production unless it is able to make steep seams flatter, to evaporate the water of the mines, without pumping, to make mine roofs so that they will not require timbering, and to make air course through the mines without the aid of costly fans. These are some natural disadvantages Nova Scotia's mines labor under which even governments cannot remove.

Here is a piece that should be read by not a few people who do their best to make people miserable:

"The person who is miserable over the good time past has a sturdy competitor in the person who tries to impress on you 'what the world is coming to.' Only a hundred years ago some of these people were busy working out by arithmetic that people had only to go on having children at the rate they were having them for there not to be enough food for them to eat—they were outgrowing the increase in crops. Now France is deploring her declining population and Britain is concerned over her falling rate of increase. In the time of Queen Elizabeth it was proved quite satisfactorily by miserably scientists that the smoke of the great cities must in time choke their inhabitants. London citizens were horribly worried by the number of foreigners there, even in the days of King James. In a generation or two the foreigners must 'own' the place. Just think of that. What the world is coming to has been, and is, an inexhaustible mine of misery to people who set themselves to work it."

The RECORD was wrong in saying last issue that there would be fewer laborites in this British Parliament than the last. The RECORD should have said fewer candidates; with fewer candidates the laborites have more seats, but of course by the grace of the liberal party. There was a better understanding on the whole between the liberals and the laborites, though the obstinacy of the latter gave one or two seats to those not friendly to labor.

Stands Scotland where it did? You better believe it does. If it comes to a matter of proportion, Scotland is the little joker of the liberal party, always trump, and Wales is the right bower.

Remarkable evidence of the rapidity of which Germany is being transformed from an agricultural into an industrial country is furnished by the new census estimates. The figures show that the cities of the Empire are making great strides at the expense of the rural districts. In 1900 the Empire had thirty-three municipalities each with a population of 100,000 or more. There are now forty-seven such cities and the number of municipalities with a population of 50,000 or more, has grown from two to seven.

The combined growth in population of forty of the larger towns is alone about half the increase recorded for the entire Empire, which is expected to be about 4,500,000.

The rapid progress of the industrial centres has an important bearing on the internal situation, as the Government's political support has heretofore been largely drawn from the agrarian districts.

AROUND THE COLLIERIES.

The Port Hood Slope is being double tracked. The wonder is, seeing the slope is wide enough, that it was not done long ago.

Messrs. Thos. Cantley and John Fellows of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. returned from Britain and other parts of Europe last Friday, looking fit in every way.

We condole, after a cordial fashion, with our genial and soft spoken contemporary, the Sydney Post, over the results of the British elections. The Post appeal, on behalf of the Peers, was pathetic.

The Western farmers are going, they declare, to put their shoulders to the wheel and build the Hudson Bay Railway. Though the surveyors are again out on the Eastern Counties projected railway route the Halifax and Guysboro farmers better take their cue from their Western brethren.

About twelve per cent. of the coal mined in Nova Scotia is consumed at the collieries and by workmen and almost an identical proportion in British Columbia, while in Alberta the consumption is less than six per cent. This gives a little idea of the difference in cost of producing from large and deep mines as compared with small and shallow ones.

When visiting the Springhill collieries the middle of the month the officials of the Dominion Coal Co. did not ask for a conference with the U. M. W. This was a disappointment to the people of Springhill. Had a committee of the workmen waited upon Mr. Butler, which was perhaps the proper thing to do, the probability is that Mr. Butler would have given them a patient hearing.

Mr. M. L. McInnis, Supt. of Dominion No. 3, has been appointed a District Superintendent, a position opened by the transference of Mr. McEachern to the Waterford district. Michael will fill the bill all right, and deserved the promotion. It is reported that Mr. Maxwell, who broke all records at Dominion No. 1 and that during the strike period, will be made Inspector of Mines, a title at times given to Mr. Charles Fergie. The Dominion Coal Company cannot afford to allow these men to go West or anywhere else.

Demurring to the statement in last RECORD that there was to be no shaft sinking at Sydney Mines, a correspondent, whose initials after close scrutiny, are almost readable, says: "Ca canny lad, ca canny. We'll melbe mak ye wiser when ye'r a wee bit older. Ye must ha been crackin jokes wi the office laddie." O ye degenerate scot. Ye haverin shoot of a worthy sire. Why don't you give us it in the pure Scottish instead of a McLaughlan mixture. 'Ye must ha been'. What's the matter with 'Maun ha been'. Ever hear of Scots wha 'ha? The President of Scotia is the joker, or, or, I say, you say the other word, as I don't like t'ca sae big a man a joker, or an 'awfu leear'.

There is more money in mining iron ore and shipping it than in digging and selling coal and therefore the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. are making all necessary preparations for greatly enlarged shipments of ore next year.

The hoisting engine of the Colonial colliery, situated on the shores of the picturesque waters of the Little Bras D'Or, puts the coal into the thousand ton pocket and on to the pier with the assistance of four men only. This ought to lessen costs.

The bank and pier of the Port Hood, Richmond R. Coal Company are being rebuilt in order to be ready for increased shipments next year. The management aim at a daily output of 800 tons which ought to be satisfactory to the directors. The records under the new man, Mr. Law, have reached the 300 ton mark.

The Springhill correspondent of the Herald says the newly elected district president has been a resident of Springhill for several years, and by unobtrusive plodding has worked his way. "O lord, Wullie an 'unobtrusive worker!' Why, one can hear wee Wullie, where he cannot see him.

There are now thirty-two places in the colliery of the McKay Mining Company, and as extensive improvements, such as a new bank-head and extension of railways have been made, a continually increasing output is looked for. The shipments for 1910 will be some 10,000 tons in excess of that for 1909.

The Colonial colliery, formerly known as the Toronto mine, and which has not mined or shipped coal for thirty years, was restarted last summer and made a good showing in shipments of 16,000 tons. This mine is expected to become a big producer in due course. The colliery is well equipped for a daily output of 500 tons. Next year it is expected there will be a channel from the mine to the Atlantic, a hundred feet wide and with a minimum depth of 23 feet of water.

The International Congress of Geologists will hold their triennial meeting in Canada next year. The delegation from Europe will land at Montreal, where a series of excursions will be arranged. The coal mines of Nova Scotia will first be visited, as will also Joggins' geological sections - the most celebrated in the world, discovered by Sir. William Dawson, along the Bay of Fundy; then the Pictou coal fields, excursions to the Laurentian Mountains, and to the asbestos region will follow. In Toronto the Congress will be in session for a week, and Niagara Falls and places of interest in the vicinity will be studied. After that the delegates will visit Cobalt and Sudbury, the Lake of the Woods region and the North-West. Opportunity will be given for studying the geology of the Rocky Mountains and the coal fields of Alberta and British Columbia. Probably excursions will also be arranged down the McKenzie River.

AROUND THE COLIERIES.

Messrs. T. Cantley, R. E. Chambers and John Fellows, all of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co.'s, staff got back from Britain last week. The trip was pleasurable to the voyagers, and it may prove profitable to the shareholders.

The big delegation of farmers were not wholly pleased with Sir. Wilfred Laurier's answer to their formidable demands for lower tariffs. He said there would be no revision until after the conclusion of the conferences on reciprocity.

Honesty is the best policy. The Nova Scotia votes this time did not save Tom Lewis from going down to defeat. His opponent for the Presidency of the U. M. W. of America, a Mr. White, beat him by about 4,000 votes. The principal U. M. W. disturbers of the industrial peace of Nova Scotia have been cast out. And may a similar recompense be awarded their successors if they do not mind their own business. P. S.—There is now some doubt as to Lewis' descent.

The Mining Institute, Ont., is to ask the Federal Government to assimilate the mining laws of the various provinces of the Dominion. The Nova Scotia Mining Society should have something to say on this point. The RECORD's opinion is that Nova Scotia's experience has taught her that it is wise, prudent and imperative that she paddle her own canoe.

A C. B. paper says the men at Dominion and Reserve were disfranchised and could not vote for Lewis, or the District Officers because they had not paid their dues. Come now, that's going a little too far. Why would it they pay their dues? Was it because, forgetful of the relief orders they had showered upon them, they are now of the belief that they have been dued enough already.

Nova Scotia Steel and Coal directors met in Halifax 19th. inst., and declared the usual dividend of two per cent. on the preferred, and one and a quarter on the common, quarterly. Some expected an increase in the rate. The directors are pursuing a sound policy. They could pay eight per cent. but it might not be for an indefinite period. They wish to make the dividend on the common as staple as that on the bonds, and instead of giving an increased dividend will give a bonus. This will not be declared until all the accounts are made up, likely in February. Whether it will be a one or a two per cent. bonus is not, of course, as yet known.

John Fletcher, a native of Pictou, well known to the mining fraternity of Pictou and Cape Breton, died on the 17th., at Springhill, survived by a widow and large family. Mr. Fletcher was a staunch upholder of the P. W. A., an elder of the Presbyterian church and a man that was always very much respected.

John C. Gillespie died at Springhill on the 18th. He was an old resident of Springhill, coming here from the town of Pictou about 32 years ago.

Jack Fletcher and Gillespie were two fine fellows.

Sydney bids fair to become the first manufacturing city in the province if all the industries spoken of are to be located there. Rolling mills, Fertilizer works, Explosives factory, etc. If these materialize they will surely be followed by others. Had Halifax not ever been inclined to rely on government assistance it might have as bright prospects as Sydney.

Nova Scotia will have to do things if it is not to be left behind in the matter of coal mining by the West, Alberta was only contributing 6 per cent. of Canada's coal production in 1900, in 1909 the proportion had risen to 21 per cent. It will be some time yet however, and a long time if our operators put on their fighting armor.

The boys at Trenton have done admirably in the absence of three of the leading officials who have been on the other side the past six weeks prying into British and German methods. All hands at Trenton made up their minds to disprove the proverb: "When the cat's away, etc.," and the result is that this will be the best December, yes, and the best month, in the way of production and profit, that the Nova Scotia Steel has witnessed at Trenton.

To be a Western farmer is to be a white headed boy—with governments. The federal government, it is said, will build elevators for the Western farmers grain. There is an elevator in Halifax rotting away from lack of employment which Nova Scotia could give the government in exchange for something useful. At times the Halifax folks are the simplest bodies in existence. They cry for something whether they want it or not and regardless of its utility.

Says the Springhill correspondent of the Herald:

"A settled despondency is taking firmer grip since the visit of the new heads of the company. It was hoped that a settlement might be brought about, but it is further away than ever. One ray of hope remains as a result of the late election for U. M. W. officials. Springhill men have captured most of the offices and will naturally strive to bring about a settlement. So long as the weekly ailment is forthcoming it is not difficult to keep the strike going. It would take some considerable amount of tact and ability to bring about a settlement as conditions are now. This is hoped from the new officials."

Which are we to believe? The Herald's Sydney correspondent says: "The results of the U. M. W. elections in district No. 26 are regarded as most satisfactory by the miners of that association in C. B. . . . The representation of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton towns is now equally divided." The Springhill correspondent has something different to say, listen: "One ray of hope remains as a result of the late election for U. M. W. officials. Springhill men have CAPTURED MOST of the offices and will naturally strive to bring about a settlement." Victory, in this instance, the RECORD assumes, was on the side of the strongest battalions.

AROUND THE COLIERIES.

The immense new Cunarder, to beat in size the Olympic, the Titanic and possibly even the monster of 50,000 tons with five decks above the main deck, being built at Stettin, Germany, goes to Clyde builders. It was thought it might go to the Tyne, but the Clyde is still supreme. The Lusitania did not beat the Mauritania but then she cost less, and earned more, and probably that is one of the reasons the Clyde now gets the preference.

After all, there are no two classes in our country whose interests are so closely bound together as the farmers and manufacturers, the near manufacturing town being always the farmer's best customer. That is the position in the East to-day, and that, under the present policy will be the condition in the West within a few years, as the manufacturers locate plants further West, and the Western farmer finds that he will ultimately require a market for varied crops. If I were a Western farmer I would bend my effort towards encouraging manufacturers to extend their operation throughout the West, rather than crying over some seeming difference in the cost of implements due to the small percentage production given to the agricultural implement manufacturer.

The United States is not the lawless country, at times, that many are under the impression it is. Some of the judges mete out justice with a firm hand. Sixteen members of Lafayette Lodge, United Mine Workers of America, in Colorado, were sentenced to twelve months in jail for violating the temporary injunction restraining striking miners from interfering with non-union men. A stay of proceedings for appeal was denied. This is a pretty smart sentence, but it seems just. Men have a right to strike, and men have just as good a right to work. A few sentences like that meted out to the Canadian foes of liberty would tend to less violence during strikes.

A Glorious New Year Message.—From an unexpected quarter deliverance is coming to the miners of Nova Scotia. The leopard, after all, can change his spots, and lions can become as lambs. At least so it would appear, for the stirrers of strife are about to become the proclaimers of peace. There is a great mystery as to what shape this proclamation of peace is to assume, but that is neither here nor there. Wullie says a proclamation is coming, and what Wullie says goes. No fitter man could be found to make it. After sixteen months hostilities, utterly barren of results,—new—the insurgents are becoming tired, and are sending out a flag of truce. We congratulate the new district president for this promised sign of the dawn of reason.

"United we stand, divided we fall", is a well worn saying, but its truth holds good every day. In a few weeks we expect to send out a proclamation, not a proclamation of war but a call to the miners of Nova Scotia, appealing to them to take the one course that will lead to a position where war will be unnecessary."

Who is the coal 'man' who can float about in fine 'yachts', live in palatial 'houses', and tote up his bank account to millions. That man is not to be found in Nova Scotia, at least not among the coal operators, though Wullie hints that way.

Wellington's "Up guards and at them" is declared to be a mythical saying, and so from the Sydney Record is Hon. John Armstrong's "we must have peace in Canada." Mr. Armstrong said to the Record:

"The statement given out to a considerable portion of the press of both Canada and the United States that the Americans in Canada are not loyal and that their children objected to singing the National Anthem and Positive evidence was given on the contrary that children of American parentage joined in the singing of these songs."

All right John, old man, we take it all back.

Mr. Drummond, since sending his article to the New Year's Chronicle, advocating "Government operation," has come across the following in the G. B. Gazette. Government operation, however, is advocated on different ground:

"With a big coal mine, operated by experienced miners and other employees, the United States Bureau of Mines is about to start experimental work on the largest scale ever attempted in any country. The Pittsburg Coal Company has turned over to the Bureau an important mine at Bruceton, Penn., and the work will begin next week.

"The Bureau's experts will experiment in the production of mine explosions, give lessons in rescue work, under actual conditions; show the proportion of pure air needed for each employee; explain ventilation, particularly as it applies to work following an accident; testing mining machinery, and give great care to the elimination of dust as a possible cause of explosions.

The Toronto Mining Review, in referring to the transfer of the Cumberland Railway and Coal property to the Dominion Steel Corporation, incidentally says some severe things of the U. M. W. For instance:

Trouble has arisen from the refusal of the previous management to deal with the U. M. W. A., and there is little room for disputing the justice of that refusal. We hope and believe that the new owners will live up to their announced policy of ignoring that unwholesome society. . . . Considered in all material aspects, the change of ownership will be beneficial. It should certainly mean better times for Springhill and ample opportunity for the Glace Bay collieries to exploit the St. Lawrence. Not less important will be the probable expulsion of the U. M. W. A. from its greatest stronghold.

We would not for a moment imply that the new owners of the Cumberland Railway and Coal Company have been seriously influenced by a desire to take a fall out of the U. M. W. A. . . . But we believe that the latter

organization cannot and will not survive.

The RECORD in the past has said some hard things of the U. M. W., while expressing sympathy for their dupes. But of late it has refrained from criticism. In C. B. the U. M. W's. are singing their swan song, and it would scarcely be decent to make interruptions. After the end comes the RECORD will perhaps say all the good it can of the departed order.

As was expected Daniel McDougall has been ousted from the district presidency of the U. M. W. Dan. is a half decent chap and for such the U. M. W's. have very little use. It is said the vote was large "all things considered. That may be an excellent saving phrase but the underlying meaning is that the vote was small. And the smallness of the vote is emphasized by the fact that the new President, Vice-President, member at large, the three auditors, etc., come from Springhill, where the members are forcibly kept in good standing, by having the dues deducted from the harmony. The Springhill vote swamped the C. B. vote, because in C. B. payment of dues is voluntary, and the C. B. men having gained wisdom by experience, are disinclined to further sacrifices. 'Wee Willie' is now nominal head of the order in Nova Scotia. The fear is that he may become puffed and burst, as the Glace Bay poet predicted of the Glace Bay man,—of the Irishman who delights to masquerade as a born Scot.

The day after the above was given to the compositor the following appeared in the Glace Bay Gazette, which shows that the Gazette and RECORD draw the same conclusions:

"The results of the U. M. W. elections in this district show in a striking manner the weakness and state of disorganization in Cape Breton.

"The Springhill members carried all before them. Of all the officers elected only five are from Glace Bay or this coal field. Two of these are birds of passage, to all practical intents, J. B. McLaughlin and David Nelson.

"There are over 4,000 miners in the employ of the Dominion Coal Co. There are at the outside 1500 striking miners, members of the U. M. W. at Springhill. That among the 4,000 enough are not members of the organization to outvote the 1,500 at Springhill, shows the weak and disorganized state of the U. M. W. here, and how it has been forsaken by the men who were deluded into joining it."

Says the Sydney Record:

"There is a great deal of dissatisfaction in local U. M. W. circles over the results of the election of officers for the Nova Scotia district for the ensuing year. In spite of all the sacrifices made by the U. M. W. of Glace Bay, which town has hitherto been regarded as the chief stronghold of the U. M. W. in Nova Scotia, all the district officers, with a couple of exceptions have been elected from the mainland colliery, these including the president, vice-president, the three auditors, and the board member at large, all of whom are now Springhill men.

"The turning down of President Dan. McDougall at this particular time is regarded as an act of ingratitude considering not only his services but what he has suffered in the interests of the organization. . . .

"Among many of the best friends of the union the feeling of disgust is intensified by the fact that McLaughlin and McLellan have been re-elected, an action which is regarded as nothing more than a sop to the rank and file in this district."

DOMINION COAL CO'S. RELIEF FUND.

The following is the quarterly statement for Board of Directors. October 31st., 1910.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

Receipts:

Workmen	\$12,364.00
Coal Company	12,497.35
Government	4,209.94
Miscellaneous	632.08
	<hr/>
	29,700.37

Expenditures:

Weekly Indemnity	\$8,591.84
Death Claims	1,697.00
Widow Allowance	653.50
Children Allowance	1,629.00
Miscellaneous	663.68
	<hr/>
Apparent surplus on operation of Society for 4 months	16,465.35
Less reserved for Liabilities contingent upon obligations undertaken in that period	9,017.00
Surplus	\$ 7,448.35

RESERVE FUNDS.

Fund at date of organization	\$66,739.13
Reserved for contingent Liabilities then existing	33,637.50
Surplus	33,101.6
Funds at credit of Society, Oct. 31, 83,204.48	
Reserved for contingent liabilities then existing	42,654.50
Increase in Reserve in four months	7,448.35

WILL CAUSE POVERTY AND WAGE SLAVERY.

Here is a big chunk of wisdom which the new district president of the foreign order, the 'unobtrusive' Willie Watkins, throws at the heads of the miners of Nova Scotia. Coming from the boss of the revolting minority it is grand, and, yet, the miners will be apt to spurn his philosophy and say: "Big dollars indeed. Was it rot the promise, and glitter of big dollars, that the U. M. W. leaders held out that made a large number secede from the P. W. A. and join the insurgents." Willie is truthful at times,—by accident if you will. He acknowledges that the U. M. W. is a warring faction. That is apparent from the frequent reports of squabbles between the leaders at Indianapolis and Illinois. Here is the reference to the big dollars:

"Remember that the big dollars some of you have been taken the last year or two are bringing about a condition of poverty and wage slavery which your children will have to endure and when you sit back in the evening of your days, your peace of mind will be troubled with the sight of conditions that you, not intentionally perhaps, but thoughtlessly helped to create.

I do not speak in a spirit of ill-will toward my fellow miners who have seen fit to act in opposition to the great organizing movement of the last two years, but I ask them to pause, consider carefully the relative positions of the warring factions, take notice of the things going on around you and see if you cannot act in conjunction with all your fellows in a way that must inevitably ensure better conditions to you, stability to trade and prosperity to the business of the province."

As this is the holiday season here are a few cheery selections:

A member of the audience in King's Theatre, Edinburgh, lately, writes asking to put on recordings of Lord Rosebery's infrequent mixed metaphors. After referring to a recent speech, and the impossibility of saying anything new, he added that he was there that day to "pick up a few crumbs which might clear the air." This sounds rather an awkward process to carry out, but it might be possible in Glasgow during foggy weather.

This elegant extract is from a recent speech by an electioneering Chairman: "There were many eminent men besides me born in this constituency. I take great credit to myself for having been born in this district. It is too early yet to ascertain the views of the district on this point; but the second sentence, in any case, suggests filial ingratitude.

At an election meeting in a village town hall the candidate had scarcely begun his address when the bell in the steeple above him commenced ringing and died until the bell had exhausted itself, when he proceeded:—"That bell has a bigger mouth than I have. It has a longer tongue than I have. It can make more sound than I can. There is more brass in it than I have. But there is no sense in it, and I hope I am superior to it in that respect. That bell used to ring long ago when you had no watches. Now you have watches and don't want it. It is ringing now because it used to and there is no sense in it. If you vote for Blank tomorrow you will do it because you used to, and there is no sense in that."

One of the speakers at the Art Club dinner lately was likened to "a succulent plum in the oratorical pie"; and he went some way towards justifying this praise by representing a parallel between politics and bowls. A candidate and a bowl have to cover much ground before reaching their objects, and sometimes miss it after all. Neither, by its construction, can go straight, and the direction of both always depends upon bias.

The following story of the late Lord Young was communicated to a Glasgow dinner-table last week. He was trying a cause in which a society for the conversion of the Jews laid claim to a sum of £750. Before the case had proceeded very far Lord Young asked counsel for the pursuers if he could inform the Court what, in the experience of the society, was the average cost of converting a Jew. After a few moments' delay for research, counsel produced the information. "I am instructed, m'nd, that the cost, so far as it can be ascertained, and taking the past year's balance-sheet of the society, is as nearly as may be £1500." Lord Young emitted his characteristic grunt. "Then supposing, Mr Dundas, that I find you entitled to this fund, will your society use it to half-convert a whole Jew or to wholly convert half a Jew?"

An explosion, much more serious than the terrible explosion which occurred at Whitehaven, Eng. last May, took place last Tuesday at the Hulton colliery, near Bolton. It is estimated that some 300 lives were lost. The explosion was followed by a violent fire. Details are not to hand but the fire must have been lo-

al as the fans were started at a comparatively short time after the explosion and the air found to be sweet.

The explosion took place a few minutes after the men had gone down the shaft to begin their day's work at 8 o'clock. A muffled roar was followed by a volume of smoke from the pit mouth, and in five minutes vast sheets of flame were shooting eighty feet above the level of the ground, forcing back with their fierce heat the crowd of hysterical women and sobbing children that had gathered there as the news of the disaster spread around.

Rescue parties were available at once, but they could not begin their work. The shaft was practically blocked with debris and the poisonous fumes created by the explosion, unable to escape by the choked-up ventilation passages were forced back upon the imprisoned miners, making their plight worse than ever.

The rescue party, foiled at the main shaft, sought access to the mine through adjoining workings, and after some delay they succeeded in gaining the lead in which the explosion had taken place through an adjoining shaft.

The rescue party suffered terribly in their self-imposed task but stuck to it nobly, and though several were overcome there was an ever-increasing force of volunteers ready and anxious to risk their lives to help their imprisoned comrades.

Twenty dead bodies had been recovered and removed to the surface when the blocking of the lead by falling coal was discovered. Before this had been reached, however, the searchers had seen, in cross-leads bodies here and there, in all sorts of shocking conditions.

Some were mangled almost beyond recognition as human forms, other were charred to a cinder, and others again were twisted and contorted as though dead after frightful agony. Many of these the rescuers were unable to reach, flames or danger of further explosions driving them back.

Later reports say that about 360 lives were lost. The few men said to have escaped did not work in the seam where the explosion occurred.

The supreme court rejected the appeal from the decision of the Rouen assize court condemning to death Secretary Durand, of the Coal Shifters' union, for conspiracy to kill without extenuating circumstances. During the strike of the coal shifters at Havre last September a foreman, named Donge, who had returned to work, was killed. Seven dockers, including Durand, were indicted for the crime. It was proved that Durand, as secretary of the union, framed a motion, which was carried, to the effect that Donge and two others ought to be got rid of. Two nights later Donge was so badly beaten while returning from work that he died shortly afterward. The Rouen jury found four of the seven men guilty. Durand was condemned to suffer the death penalty, one of the others was sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude, and two others received sentences of eight years each. There was a recommendation to mercy in the case of Durand.

According to the "primer on explosives" recently issued by the U. S. Geological Survey, the flame from the explosion of black powder lasts from 2,500 to 3,500 times as long as the flame from never explosives, and so is much more likely to ignite mine dust or gas.

IMPORTS OF U. S. COAL.

The following statement shows the imports of United States coal into Montreal and points East for the month of November, 1910:

Province	Anth. coal.	Bitum. coal.	Bitum. coal dust.	Totals for mth.
Quebec	80,841	27,783	31,074	139,698
New Brunswick	4,761	249		5,010
Nova Scotia	5,355	125	7	5,487
P. E. Island	Nil	Nil	Nil	
	90,951	28,157	31,081	150,195

THE WHITEHAVEN PIT DISASTER.

The inquiry into the Whitehaven pit disaster concluded last week. After the forty-third witness had given evidence the coroner addressed the jury at some length. After consideration for an hour and three-quarters the jury returned the following verdict:—

"That the 131 men and boys were killed in an explosion or explosions of fire-damp in the third north; that there was not sufficient evidence to show the cause of ignition; that the closing of the pit on the 13th May was an expedient and rightful act, and no means other than those adopted could have been carried out to reach the entombed men; that no negligence or responsibility for the disaster was attributable to anybody, and there was no proof that the explosion was attributable to the non-observance of any statutory obligation; and that all due and reasonable precautions were taken for the safety of the men." The jury added recommendations that a withdrawal report book be kept; that the ventilation of the pit be more adequate, and dusty roads sprayed; that a rescue and ambulance brigade be kept with proper appliances; that keys be provided for return side of the airway; and that a strict observance of the special rules by workmen and officials be strictly required.

Lord Milner is the last person in the world that the Tories ought to send to an East-end constituency. The working men of Bow and Bromley were too much for him, and it must have been an eye-opener to the superior persons on the platform to find how these East-end workmen know their politics. When Lord Milner was unwise enough to accuse those who follow Mr. Lloyd George of being ignorant, he provoked the retort, 'We are not Chinese'—a home thrust which greatly disconcerted our great pro-Consul. When he said that something was no reason for indulging in a general scramble, he was asked, 'Who wants a general scramble?' and told 'You've had your bit out of the State.' As a popular speaker Lord Milner is a great failure. He so constructs his sentences that they are often finished for him by the audience. 'We throw the whole weight of our taxation' he said, and before he could finish somebody interpolated 'on the poor.'—When he talked about British capital giving employment to British workmen the audience almost with one voice added 'or Chinese.' But the severest inter-

ruption was when he was making some remark of the approved Tory sort about Mr. Lloyd George, and was met with the cry, 'Be a gentleman.' For a Peer of the Realm to have to be told by an East-end audience to be a gentleman is a fine comment on the methods of electioneering which the freedom of Peers to take part in elections has produced. 'Look at the land of the 'country,' said Lord Milner. 'I've got a flower-pot full,' said an interrupter, and the audience was convulsed.

A REMARKABLE SEAM.

The Shotts Coal and Iron Company are at present mining a remarkable coal measure. The seam is situated in the Mont rit at Roslin, and is in the form of a great layer of coal 300 fathoms long, 7½ fathoms wide, and 7½ feet thick. The whole seam is inclined at the abnormal angle of eighty and a half degrees to the horizontal, and presents many difficulties in the working. The coal is being got by what is known as the "steep" working principle, and owing to the great angle of inclination the coal has to be brought from the top of the slope downwards. The amount of the coal estimated to be in this particular layer is nearly 24,000 tons.

Speaking at Cambridge, Professor Sims Woodhead said that at the risk of being considered a crank he must press the Temperance question as often as possible. Intemperance was one of the deadliest grips laid upon the nation. The children of drinkers were ill-fitted for their lives; and what of the generation that follow? They must be saved from degeneration. The more they knew of alcohol, and its effects on the working of the body and on disease, the more they knew that alcohol was interfering with the physique, the mind and the spirit. It therefore diminished their effectiveness and powers as workers.

Glycerine, which has been reaching increasingly dear for some time, has now reached the highest price on record. The increase is due to the scarcity of fat and oils, and the demand for glycerine in the manufacture of high explosives, which are used in enormous quantities in the construction of the Panama Canal, and other great engineering undertakings.

Complaints of the rate at which motor-driven vehicles are ousting horse-driven ones from the roads were made at the conference of the National Union of Horse Vehicle Owners. It was stated that the London General Omnibus Company, which formerly owned 24,300 horses, now has less than 5,000.

A local minister had had a serious time in fighting the saloon element in his town, and had not been backed up in his efforts by the members of his own church. This, with other troubles, had led to his resignation, and in announcing his departure at his farewell sermon he said, "I am going to do something the devil has never done. I am going to leave C—."

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000 tons in that time and is still good for further considerable service.

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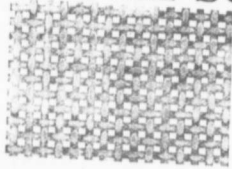
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WESTBOUND Superior Dir.		STATIONS.	EASTBOUND Inferior Dir.	
P. M.	A. M.		P. M.	A. M.
3 30	10 40	P. UPPER JUNCTION	3 45	11 00
3 35	10 50	INVERNESS JCT.	3 50	11 05
3 40	11 00	PORT HAWKESBURY	3 55	11 10
3 45	11 10	PORT HASTINGS	4 00	11 20
P. M.	10 55	THOY	4 10	A. M.
9 30	9 45	CHEGONISH	4 20	
9 35	9 50	CHATHMORE	4 30	
9 40	9 55	JURRIE	4 35	
8 45	8 55	CATHERINES FOND	5 10	
8 50	9 00	PORT HOOD	5 20	
8 55	9 05	GLENSIDE	5 30	
9 00	9 10	MADOT	5 35	
7 50	7 40	GLENDYRE	6 25	
8 55	7 55	BLACK HAYR	6 45	
7 50	7 50	STRATHLORE	7 00	
8 55	8 55	INVERNESS	7 10	
A. M.			P. M.	

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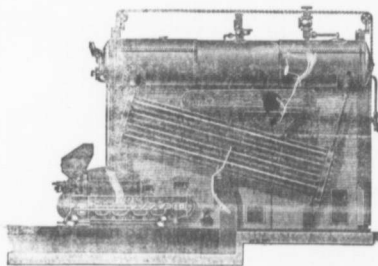
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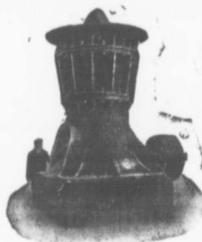
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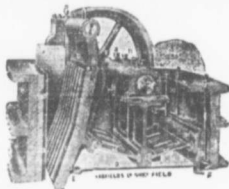


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Volatile combustible matter	18.94 %	27.93 %	28.41 %
Fixed Carbon.....	75.29 %	67.47 %	64.69 %
Ash.....	3.75 %	3.19 %	4.19 %
	100.00	100.00	100.00
Sulphur.....	1.15 %	58 %	.79 %

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