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New Series Vol. 10 No. 15

February 12th, 1908

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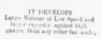
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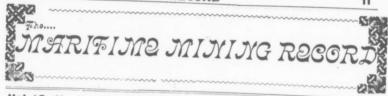
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Vol. 10, No. 15. Stellarton, N. S., Feb. 12th. 1908. New Series

#### SELECTED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Engineering.

Q.—Name some of the chief impurities in boiler feed water. What difficulties or dangers arise from using impure water, and what precautions would you adopt where you were compelled to use it?

A.—The following are the chief impurities in feed water for boilers, viz:

- 1.—Carbonate of Lime.
- 2.—Sulphate of Lime.
- 3.-Carbonate of Magnesia.
- 4.—Phosphate of Lime.
- 5.-Oxide of Iron.
- 6.-Silica.

The chief difficulty or danger arising from impure water entering the boiler is the formation of scale, which is very dangerous and which considerably lessens the efficiency of the boiler. The carbonates give us temporary hardness, and can be removed by boiling, which drives off the carbonic acid and causes the carbonate of lime or magnesia to be precipitated. Permanent hardness is due to the presence of sulphates. Ordinary boiling at atmospheric pressure does not precipitate these, but they are precipitated at a temperature of 300 degrees Fah. This is often exceeded in ordinary boilers, and then the sulphate are precipitated as well as the carbonates. Some well-known waters contain as much as 30 degrees of hardness, which means that about 1 1-4 cwt. of scale would be deposited per week, assuming the boiler consuming 25 tons of coal, and evaporating 8 lb. of water per lb. of coal.

As I have said, this scale forming is extremely dangerous, as overheating of the plates is liable to occur, which would eventually end in an explosion; also corrosion is liable to take place, in the form of putting and grooving of the boiler shell.

In accordance with the most up-to-date practice, water should be properly purified before being fed into the boiler, but if this cannot be done the formation of hard scale may be somewhat prevented by the use of a boiler composition. This has not, however, the effect of eliminating the incrustation forming salts, but merely changes their character, and prevents their deposition as a hard scale. To use a boiler composition safely without running any undue risks is to have it prepared by a competent chemist, after he has made a thorough analysis

of the feed water, as there are many compositions on the market at the present time, which are absolutely injurious to the iron or steel which the boiler shell is made of.

Oak, hemlock, and other barks and woods are effective as a preventive of scale forming in waters containing carbonates of lime or magnesia. Milk of lime and metallic zinc have been used with success in waters charged with bicarbonate of lime, reducing the bicarbonate to the insoluble carbonate.

Soda ash is useful in waters containing sulphate of lime by converting it into a carbonate, and so forming a soft scale and easily removable.

Petroleum has also much been used. It acts best in waters containing sulphate of lime.

By far the most satisfactory method, however, is to take out the incrustation salts, and whilest by chemical treatment and subsequent filtration this can be successfully done on a large scale, probably on a small scale, or with single boilers the least troublesome, cheapest, and most effective method of preventing sulphate and carbonate of lime entering a boiler is by heating the water to the temperature of the steam. We all know that if water is heated up to upwards of 320 degrees Fah. the carbonate of lime and magnesia and the sulphate of lime become insoluble and are thus deposited, the carbonates almost instantaneously, and the sulphates more slowly.

There are two very good processes now being used, the 'Archbutt Deeley Process," and the "Desrumaux Process." In the Archbutt Deeley Process, the purification is effected in open tanks. Its principal feature is the ingenious way in which the impurities in the water are themselves during the operation made to act as a filtering medium, and rapidly acclerate the process of precipitation.

The Desrumaux Process is a continuous one, the precipitation being effected in a closed vesset, through which the water flows in a spiral channel of conical form, and from the surfaces in which any deposit on be quickly and effectively removed.

Geology.
Q.—What are the principal divisions in the Carboniferous system, and in which is coal found?

A.—The great rock system which is known to the geologist and student as the carboniferous formation lies seventh upward in the classified system, and derives its name from the fact that in this formation are about nine-tenths of the seams of that great carbon product-coal. In general the system is divided into four rock groups, given by geologists in the following order:

1.-True or Great Coal Measures.

2.-Millstone Grit.

3.—Carboniferous Limestone (Mountain Limestone.)

4.-Lower Limestone Shales.

The above formations or divisions obtain in almost every part of the world where the carboniferous system is found, but in North Staffordshire and Derby the carboniferous system seems to be somewhat singular, since it may be sub-divided into five well-marked groups which lie in the following order:

1.-True Coal Measures.

2.-Millstone Grit.

3.-Pendleside Shales. 4.—Conboniferous Limestone.

5.-Lower Limestone Shales. The intrusive Pendleside shales of the above formations are much like ordinary Coal Measure Shales, But may be distinguished therefrom by their fossiliferous contents, which are peculiar to their own rocks only, and can be found in no other system. The other sub-divisions are also marked by their own fossils, of which the Limestone is characterized by such fossils as Productus, the Spirifera and others; while the Coal Measures are characterized by many forms of fossit molusca, such as Adamsii, Phillipsii, Carbonicola Acute and Aquilina in the seams proper, and by many forms of plant life, such as Sigilaria, Stigmaria, Newropteris, Pecopteris, etc., in the adjoining rocks. Although, as I state, the Carboniferous system lies seventh upward, it may not always have its six companions below, nor does it always lie conformable upon its under neighbors, for as South Staffordshire shows us, it may lie unconformably upon the third or fourth group, for in the district men tioned the Carboniferous system lies unconformably upon the Silurian system, and in the district around Dudley they are working coal in one pit and Silurian (Wenlock) limestone in the next, and so on. As to which division of the Carboniferous formation carries the coal we only need look at the order given at the commencement of this answer, for there we see that the coal-bearing measures are situated right at the top of the system in question. In this group are contained coal seams whose total thickness is over 100 feet; hence, it is adequately named the True or Great Coal Measures. In North Staffordshire the coal seams vary in thickness from about 1 foot up to nearly 16 or 20 feet, and the best seams seem to lie the lowest, the quality of the coal seeming to deteriorate as the top of the productive measures is reached. The reason for calling this group the True Coal Measures is because a few inferior seams are found in other systems or formations; for instance, coal is worked in the Oolites and Oligocenes, but it is in the Coal Measures that the good and true coals are found. In this district

the Coal Measures are again sub-divided as follows:

Keele Series. Middle. Newcastle Series. Lower. Red Marls (Etruria). Coal Measures Upper. Black Band (Ironstones.)

True Coal Measures.

From this table it will be seen that the Coal Measures are topped by Ironstones and Maris, and so the whole of the Coal Measure rocks may be turned into account in their own respective way.

#### ANTHRACITE.

Mr. John Roberts, in his evidence before the Royal Commission on "Coal Supplies," said that in using the term Anthracite he referred to coals containing 88 per cent, and upwards of fixed carbon.

Although most text books mention how anthracite has been formed there seems to be too much similarity in the hypothesis given, and it is quite apparent that many of the assertions are only copies of antiquated hypothesis.

Some would have us believe that it is neither right nor wise to tamper with or question any meory, unless we can submit something better to

take its place. However, is it not safer not to have a house at all than to have one with its foundations laid in sand?

Had our scientific authors each given their own impressions on the formation of anthracite, instead of passing on obsolete theories, the result would have been more satisfactory.

With all our modern learning, we have to acknowledge that up to the present we have no satisfactory explanation as to how anthracite has been

The writer had some correspondence lately with a well-known Professor in Chemistry, who is well versed and takes a deep interest in the chemistry of coal. The Professor, when referring to the subject of anthracite formation, said: "I cannot formulate any hypothesis to account for the production of anthracite to my own satisfaction.

It will be of special interest to students to have the various explanations given by various authori-

"Mines and Miners," translated and adapted to British mining, and edited by H. W. Bristow, F. R. S... mentions that "the oldest strata and the lowest which have undergone the greatest amount of pressure and heat, are those most productive of anthracite."

Hughes, in his excellant treatise on "Coal Mining." says;--"The formation of anthracite has prob ably been effected by the alteration of bituminous coals under heat and pressure.

In "Story of a Piece of Coal," by E. A. Martin, F. G. S., the author remarks: "It is a significant fact, and one which proves that the various kinds of coal which are formed are nothing but stages begotten by different degrees of disentanglement of the contained gases, that where, as in some parts, a mass of basalt has come in contact with ordinary bituminous coal, the coal has assumed the character of anthracite."

Sir Archibald Geikie, in his "Text Book of Geology," referring to anthracite, mentions "that it is a coal form which the bituminous parts have been eliminated. It occurs in beds like ordinary coal, but in positions where probably it has been subjected to some change whereby its volatile constituents have been expelled. It is found largely in Scottish coal-fields, where the ordinary coal seams have been approached by intrusive masses of igenous-rock.

In South Wales there is a bed of coal which produces bituminous coal in one district, and in another district the nature of the coal in the same bed has changed to anthracite. Another point of great import, and which so far has not received the attention it deserves, is that coals from the anthracite zones have generally a lower content of ash than the coal from the bituminous zone.

The same thing occurs in one of our Scotch coalfields. From the same group of collieries anthracite and bitumisous coals are produced. The ash content of the bituminous coal is 3.67 per cent, whereas the ash percentage of the anthracite is only 1.77. These ash percentages are the opposite to what is required to support the theory which is put forward by so many scientists.

If anthracile is the result of hituminous coal losing its voliate matters by the action and effect of heat and pressure, then anthracite should, as a matter of course, contain the higher content of ash.

#### BOILER FEED WATER.

Feed-water purification may or may not be essential, but feed-water heating is important. Many engineers have an erroneous opinion as to the detrimental effects of scale in boilers. While scale does not materially reduce the efficiency of a boiler, it may increase the wear and reduce its life. The steam-making power of a boiler-plate depends not on its conducting powers, but on its receiving and transmitting powers. An iron plate can conduct 12 times as much heat as it can absorb from the fire or give up to the water, and it is quite possible that a thin coat of scale on the metal in the water and a deposit of soot on the metal in the heated gases may be a benefit rather than a detriment. The nature of the scale, is, of course, important, and unless is is many times as bad a conductor as the iron, the same amount of heat will pass, so that the question resolves itself into its ability of handing over the heat received to the water. A thin scale is preferred by many experienced enginers, who hold that this scale not only stops corrosion and pitting, but makes the boiler steam better. If, however, much scale-forming material is present in the water, this should be removed before the water is fed to the boilers. In every case where water is

treated, the treatment should be done external to the boiler, since it is the function of the boiler to raise steam and not to act as a purifier.

When the engineer has checked all the leakages in the brick-work, has affixed guages to the stack so as to record the amount of carbon dioxide present, and has done all that possibly can be foreseen to effect economy, the problem then must naturally rest with the fireman. The latter should be instructed in the proper method of firing the particular fuel used, and so much has been written on this subject that it would appear that advantage could be taken of the abundant material available.

By means of superheated steam, a saving of from 10 per cent. to 20 per cent. may be effected in the fuel expense, the greater saving being realized when the engines are working under uneconomical conditions, or where the steam pipe lines are very long. While a superheater may reduce the efficiency of a boiler somewhat, the saving in steam more than offsets this loss of efficiency; so that if superheated steam requires 10 per cent. additional heat and reduces the engine losses by 20 per cent, a material saving is affected.

The station with a large output and high-load factor naturally shows better economy as to fuel consumption. If the output of a station is below normal, the conditions are not conducive to economy. If the load factor is such as to require banked fires in the boiler room, an effort should be made to improve the load factor. The effect of a bad load factor is more pronounced in the boiler room than in the engine room, since a standing engine does not waste coal, but a banked fire does. The number of boilers under steam should, therefore, be kept down to a minimum and some method of increasing the draft installed to help out at peak loads.

Radiation from all sources should be reduced by covering all heat-radiating surfaces with nonconductors. Nearly all stations have their live steampipes enclosed in some steam pipe covering, but not all heat-radiating surfaces are covered, so that economy in this direction is only partinally obtained.—Electrical Age.

#### THE U. S. LAGS BEHIND.

In spite of all the natural conditions tending to reduce the number of mine accidents in the U. S. to a low figure, the statistics for the last 15 years show directly contrary results. Coal mining is other countries has been made safer by the adoption and enforcement of stringent regulations for the mines, but in this country it has become increasingly dangerous each year. Considered in regard to the number of men employed in coal mines, the U. S. occupies a less favorable position than any other coal-producing country, more than three times as many men out of each 1,000 employed being killed as in some European countries that are less favored by natural conditions. In regard to deaths per 1,000,000 tons of coal mined, the U. S. not only

occupies a position worse than that of most European countries, but is also showing an increase in the rate, whereas every other country is showing a decrease. The increase both in the number and seriousness of mine explosions in the U. S. shown in the past may be expected to continue unless most energetic measures are taken to counteract the prevailing tendency. With the depletion of the thicker and more favorably situated seams of coal, thinner and less regular seams must be worked. This factor will undoubtedly be of the greatest importance within a comparatively few years and the natural result will be to increase greatly the death rate. The rising price of timber will have the effect of decleasing the number of props used and thus increasing the chances of accidents from falls of roof and coal, which were the direct cause of 50 per cent. of the deaths in mines in 1906. The varied nationality of the miners is also a factor to be reckoned with. The reckless disregard shown by some of the inexperienced men for their own safety and that of others can be restrained only by rigidly enforced laws.

The successful results which have attended efforts made in European countries to reduce the dangers of coal mining and the means by which these results have been achieved are described by the authors in some detail. By the compulsory use of tested safety lamps, by regulations for the use of explosives, and by various admirable precautions for combating unfavorable conditions, the chief coal-producing countries of the old world have greatly reduced the dangers and risks attending mining, and it is evident that similar measures should be adorted in the U. S.-Mining Science.

#### THE PLEASANT ROMANCE OF POCAHONTAS.

The name Pocahontas is widely known in the trade. The coal field bearing that designation. situated in Virginia and West Virginia,, is one of the greatest coal-producing sections of the country and the fuel mined there is second to no Bituminous coal as regards quality. For this reason a sketch of the personality and achievements of the Indian Princess who originally possessed the name may be of interest. The subject is particularly timely at present because the site of the Jamestown Exposition is near the spot where many of the events transpired in which Pocahontas figured. In fact, as is, of course, generally known, the exposition was planned to commemorate the three-hundredth anniversary of the founding of Jamestown by Captain John Smith, whose memory is so closely associated with that of Pocahontas. The story of these two historical characters was recently told by a writer in the New York Herald, who says that, although Captain Smith's veracity has been questioned of late years since the unearthing of the manuscripts of his various contemporaries, probably jealous of his daring prowess, his compelling qualities and incredible success in forcing food and concessions from hostile tribes, the story of his salvation by the

fearless child of 12 is too momentous and thrilling to erase from the annals of our countrys history. Besides, we have the authority of no less a historian than John Fiske for accepting the story as substantially true.

As Smith paints the picture for us in his "Generale Historie of Virginia" (1624), we can see in our mind's eye the pomp and state with which Powhatan, father of Pocahontas, sought to impress the hated whites, already encroaching upon his hereditary territory at Werowocomoco. There the luckless prisoner Smith beheld the chief in a magnificent robe of raccoon skins, hung with strings of pearls, and seated upon a large divan of mats covered with leather pillows embroidered with beads of many

Powhatan's presence, loomed majestic before th€ adventurer. It was commanding, disdainful and pregnant with the subtle menace that the power of life and death gives to a man. On either side of him sat his two latest favorites, pearl pendant streaming from ears to waist, while his 20 wives disposed themselves about the council chamber behind a double row of silent, mighty warriors, bedizened with scarlet paint and savage ornaments. The prisoner was treated with the greatest formality and show of consideration; He was feasted and attended by beautiful women while the council was being held to decide his fate. Suddenly, in the midst of this display of amity, he was seized upon and dragged to the feet of Powhatan, his head forced upon two flat stones, and a pair of flerce men, with clubs awaited the signal to beat out his brains. Into this wild, pitiless scene rushed the darling of the camp, "the king's dearest daughter." a lithe, alert being, who "not only for feature, countenance and proportion much exceeded any of Powhatan's people, but for wit and spirit the only nonpareil of his country." Her vivid imagination was undoubtedly made captive by this adventurous spirit, this hero of a hundred romances.-Coast Trade Journel.

#### ANCIENT GOLD MINING.

A mining centre of the ancient world-probably worked as early as 2,500 B. C.-was between the Red Sca and the Nile in the Eastern Desert of Egypt. In an account of the recent successful search for the long-lost mines, Mr. C. J. Alford, states that the remains consist of irregular stone huts, usually containing about 50 to 100 square feet, and these are grouped in some places in twos and threes, and in others in towns large enough for 1,000 men and having outside walls. The ancient workings are buried in sand. The only vestiges of the mining appliances are numerous circular quartz mills and elliptical rubbing stones, the latter having been evidently used with stone rolling pins for reducing the rock to coarse powder, while the circular mills-with an upper and a lower stonefinished the grinding to the necessary fineness. The gold was then washed out.

#### MARITIME MINING RECORD.

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#### R. DRUMMOND, PUBLISHER.

STELLARTON. N. S.

FEB 12.

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HAPPY NOVA SCOTIA.

The Bituminous coal trade in the United States is at present very slack. Many mines have shut out, down and few are running on full time. In Pa. Pitts a large number of men in connection with many manufacturing plants are closing their doors ev- are opposed to any scale. erywhere and the outlook is very gloomy". This is a darker picture than given in the press. Perhaps it is too dark. while the press pictures are too bright. The Buffalo correspondent of the Coal Trade Journal says that so many miners are idle everywhere that it will be easy to suit the production to the demand. The operators in the U.S. speak of enforcing a reduction in mining rates, while the miners unions talk of asking an increase. It seems to be the general opinion that neither side will try to enforce its demands, as the trade will not permit this year of any experiments. is held that a strike this year would be fruitless so far as the mine workers are concerned if there is any desire in Nova Scotia among the miners to strike for higher wages they better suppress it. The trade will not stand an increase. was thought a while ago that the operators might be in a position to demand higher rates from some of their big consumers. It is now thought that might be risky, as it might lose to them part of the St. Lawrence business, and they cannot afford that, Our miners, particularly those in C. B. may think that Nova Scotia has the St. Lawrence trade It is only ours if we nurse it. Last year notwithstanding the fact that wages were high in Britain no less a quantity than 150,000 tons of British coal found its way to the St. Lawrence. That is ten per cent. at least of the total quantity necessary for that market; we can stand the loss of that without great harm, but if increased to 20 per cent. the matter might become serious. And then the Americans are building boats for the Lake-St. Lawrence trade. These may not hurt the run-o-mine trade directly, but cheap slack may lead to a disvse of run-o-mine. The miners The miners in Nova Scotia-in both the Mainland and the Is-

There is a table in the Coal Trade Journal of Feb'y. 5th. from which one gleans that British North America received from the U. S. in 1907, 2,-648,769 tons of anthracite and 7,194,546 tons, no less, of bituminous coals, making a total 9,840,000 odd tons, or double the production of Nova Scotia, And yet there are some who are not content that Nova Scotia, one of the provinces of the Dominion should find a market within her borders for 50% of the quantity imported from the U.S. If any industry has reason to shout 'Canada for he Canadians' it may be the coal industry.

Pittsburgh mine operators, says the Coal Trade Journal, representing an annual output of 30,000-000 tons have decided that coal miners must accept a reduction of ten cents a ton, or be locked It is understood that the operators of tht In Pa. Pittsburg district are not willing even to accept a large number of men in connection with many a proposition that has been taked of in the trees, trades are faring badly. Not only are the mines that of signing a scale at the present rate providaffected, but also the railways. Under date of ing the miners would sign for a term of years. Feb. 2nd, there is a letter on our desk which says: Here some operators are desirous that the miners would be a proposition of the connection of the connec "The Railway shops are on four days a week; should sign for three years, while the operatives

> The prospects for the Provincial Steel trade are brightening. The Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co. have received sufficient orders to keep them going for some time, and as orders are beginning to drop in at recurring shorter intervals, the management have assumed the optimistic smile they wore twelve months ago. Though business was not over abundant in Nov. and Dec., the business done in 1907 so far as net proceeds go will compare favorably with those of the preceding year, with which there was much satisfaction. 'common' shareholders will be gratified at the prospect of continuous dividends. Another most hopeful sign for the trade is the placing with the Dominion Iron & Steel Co., by the Dominion Wire Works of an order for the large quantity of 6000 tons of wire rods, the first order the big company has had for rods for four months. The Nova Sco-tia Steel and Coal Co'ys plants, both Steel and Coal are in splendid shape, and development work is going on quickly if quietly. The prospects at Wabana are brightening every day, if that be possible. Sinking to the submarine areas of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. is progressing most favorably. In a distance of 800 feet not a fault has been encountered. The ore bed continues of surprising thickness and the quality leaves nothing to be longed for.

The first month of the year has done well for in Nova Scotia—in both the Maintanu and the island—are doing better, making better time and orable to shipments both by water and by rail.

drawing higher wages, at the present than are
miners anywhere, and it is their plain duty to see
ithat any action of theirs will not so disturb trade
that any action of theirs will not so disturb trade
that are aduction will inevitably follow.

the coal trade. The open weather has been ravdrable to shipments both by water and by rail.

January shipments are the highest for any Jany,
the history of the trade. The open weather has been ravdrable to shipments both by water and by rail.

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### Rubs by Rambler.

From Annapolis to Victoria Counties the press of the Province keep dinning into our ears in never ending stentorian tones that they are heart and soul with the workingmen, The papers one and all declare that they are on the workingmen's side, and will never leave them nor be driven a way from them. They say, and would like the workmen to believe it all: "Intreat us not from following after thee; whither thou goest we go: where thou lodgest we will lodge; whatever you say we will echo; your demands will be our demands; your aspirations our aspirations; your ideals our ideals and your gods our gods, workingmen and the rest of us hear all this; and if we are quick sighted we will see something— we will see those who have in such terms sworn fealty, turn their backs and mutter—until after To me it appears-to use the the next election. language not of the Presbyterian Witness-devilish strange that the same papers that express a friendliness, that cannot well be put in words, for the workingmen. or let me say the miners, lose no opportunity for giving the coal operators a back opportunity for giving the confiderators a dack slap or a side wipe, forgetful that the burt of the operators is the hurt of the men. Witness the size of the headlines announcing the withdrawal of coasting privileges from Norwegian vessels? The papers hailed it as a god send regardless of how it effected the coal trade. The cancelling of the privilege may through time prove an excellent thing for Canada. That wholly depends, however, on the way Canadians set to work to fill the It would have gap which the order will make. been wiser that the order should not take effect for two or three years, so as to give the coal operators time to carry out the contracts they had made with the Norwegian vessel owners-at least one company has contracted for three years, and to give Canadians an opportunity to build or buy vessels suitable for the trade- How did it come about that Norwegian vessels got into the coal and ore trade? For the simple reason that they built a class of vessels, with big hatches, specially And further British vessels designed for them. of the right size are difficult to procure, The colliers as a rule are too small carriers for our trade under present conditions

The provincial papers are under the impression that to the clamor they helped to raise is due the issuing of the Order in Council. It may have helped just a little but the order was issued under pressure from Ontario. Norwegian vessels hast year found thoir way into the lakes and that must be prevented. Why? Because there are three shipbuilding works on the lakes ready to supply any sort of vessel that may be be needed.

In Nova Scotia there are no steel ship-building yards, and the demand for steamers cannot be supplied here. The Order may cause transfers to British registry, but just how that will help the coasters I cannot imagine. If Canadians wish to secure the ore and the coal carrying trade the sconer they start shipbuilding yards the better. It is said the next move of the coasting captains is to secure the passing of an order that all vessels be loaded in turn. Foster the other day told

Fielding that going into supply was one thing and getting supply another and a different thing, so it may be that it will be found that the getting of an order passed is a different thing from getting it fulfilled. If a coal company says to a would be purchaser, captain of schooner or ship: "We have sold all our product up till the end of October" what could he do about it? If the Order helps the captains and does not hinder the coal companies all will be satisfied.

The success of an industrial enterprise depends almost wholly on the management; the success and the good name of a labor union depends to a large degree on the leader. Above everything else a labor leader should have back bone so that he will not be afraid to make proper disposition of unthinking and turbulent spirits. Roosevelt lately sent a Commission to Goldfield. Nevada, to investigate the necessity for the call for federal troops. The Commissioners do not spare the Mine Owners Association, and they have a word or two of advice for the Union leaders. The Commission expresses itself as satisfied that throughout the Miners Union there are not over a few hundred men of dangerous type, while the great majority-probably three-torths of the membership, were conceded to be men of law abiding tendencies. By permitting their organization to be managed and controlled by men of violent tendencies the Union as a body has thus laid itself open to the repreach of being a vicious The Western Federation of Minorganization. ers as a Union is a bad stick, no matter if a majority of its members are inclined to be law abid-To have three hundred vicious men in twelve hundred is a very large proportion, and is a number quite sufficient to bring the whole fabric into disrepute more especially as in this instance the victous tail rules and wags the staid dogs people of Nevada wanted back bone in not being able of themselves to subdue all attempts at law lessness, and the leaders of the Union are equally lacking in stamina when they do not deny the privileges of their order to the law breakers. is true in Nova Scotia as in Nevada that the unruly spirits largely control many of the Unions. The sober minded men take too little interest in the proceedings. These unruly spirits have a way of hinting to the better thinking men that if they de not fall into line they will be classed as cowards or manager's men, and strange to say at this hint the back bone of the better disposed men shrivels up. What cowards we be—all of us more or less, mostly more.

Taken up with other matters I have been unable to make reference to several subjects proved as 'paper a sermon delivered in B. C., by a former Fictonian. The one remark in the sermon that fix.d itself most firmly on my mind was the announcement by the reverend gentleman that he had lately become a convert to socialism. If thought that a peculiar statement, as I was under the impression that unconverted ministers did not generally make public confession, when a chunge came. It was a frank confession certainly, equivalent to saying he had not been, until lately, what he had professed to be, which is a very hard thing for an expounder of the treath. Every Christian

is or ought to be a true socialist. The preacher I tant, and whether he likes it or likes it not off he goes, refer to told us what socialism was not. He and not for two dollars a day but for a fraction over a a fair 'divvy'. He did'nt say it in so many words but he left the impression that the socialism to which he had become a convert was 'favors to none, justice to all'. Well thats about the size of the socialism to which I became a convert long ago, indeed into which I was born, and every Christian should be a socialist of that sort. But that is not socialism as its loudest advocates expound it. These shout at us the meaningless cry: Labor is entitled to all it produces' and 'Labor has created all capital', therefore labor is entitled to all wealth. But the weak point about the latto-day is labor's master, there is something else that is master of both, that can command the commander, and that is skill, or, put in another form, pay. brains. It is not capital, it is not labour, correctly speaking that is setting and keeping in motion all the big wheels, and gigantic forces that these days are doing marvellous things. It is not capital or labor that is giving us fruits unknown to our forefathers, and promises at an early day to convert the prickly cactus into a fodder far more profitable than bay, or oats or beans. It is skill: it is brains, that is doing all this, Brains to day are the master of, and can command both capital and labor. The socialists who propogate the dogma that unskilled labor is the source of wealth are doing injury and not good to the cause of labor. Instead of bawling the prefervid socialists should work with the Christian reformers, who are endeavoring to give every boy and girl, every man and woman a chance to acquire that skill which alone is the creator of capital. An Amherst writer in the Herald, earnest evidently on behalf of the workingmen, judges rightly when he says that the socialist propaganda is injurious to the realization of the hopes of honest, industrious, right thinking workingmen.

There should be sufficient reasons for the establishment of a modified form of old age pensions without the resort to arguments which apply very remotely if at all to the subject. As an argument in favor of old age pensions to workmen we hear it advanced:-"Pensions are given to soldiers and solors, and why not to workmen who in many cases are exposed to as great if not greater risks." Well, there is scarcely a comparison between a workm an as we know him to day, and a soldier, even though a man like Sir C. Furness makes one He s tys 'soldiers, sailors etc.get pensions, why not workmen Certainly workmen could demand pensions equally with soldiers, if they were placed under the same restrictions, and their employment had similar limitations workman can put his thumb to his nose, or perform some other like athletic feet, in the presence of and to show his independence or contempt for the boss, and the latter is helpless. The soldier who would perform a like evolution in the face of his colonel would be put on a diet of bread and water for a given period, if a worse thing did not befall him. If a miner is asked to worse thing his place to another part of the mine a few come from his place to another part of the mine a few yards distant, he goes or goes not as it comes up his back. The soldier is not asked but bidden to go from Britain to Cawnpore, Lahaoe, thousands of miles dis-

said is was not lawlessness nor robbery, nor any quarter of a dollar. Tommy Atkins has to come to work every day, holidays and holy-days, or else give reason why. The workman takes as many days off as it suits him, and thinks it nobodys business. Tommy touches his hat to the lieutenant; the workmen condescends at times to acknowledge the bow of the foreman. Tommy has to take a march of ten miles with his kit on his back, and his implements in his hands, while the miner But gets his kit sent down in the box and gets a ride down the slope instead of walking Tommy gets regulation fare, the workman gets what he likes best. Tommy has to be in barracks at bugle call, while the workman to all wealth. But the weak point about the lat- care to go out to troug, or to the condition of the could ter battle shout is that it is not true. Labor, mere bidden. They might have no objections if they could be be a should be compared to the could be compared to the goes home at the call of fancy. after all a pension. What he gets after a term of service is the pay he ought to have got when he was hard at work. His is properly not a pension, but deferred

#### COAL IN AN ACRE.

Just how much coal there is in an acre, the thickness of the seam being given, admits of various answers. The quantity in tons depends largely of course on the specific gravity of the coal A rough way of calculating in Nova Scotia is to allow ten thousand tons per foot per acre. Some sellers however would like to put it much in excess of these figures. How far this calculation is out may be judged from the following. One of and its out may be judged from the following. One of the New Zealand collieries, after thirty six yeers work has become exhausted. The property contained 450 acres and the coal varied in thickness from 7 to 11 feet, Let us strike an average of 9 feet. The quantity of coal produced from start to finish was 2,167,231 tons. quantity divided by 450 gives 4810 tons per acre, roughly speaking. If this be divided by 9 we have about 550 tons. The angle of the seam was 14, and the specific gravity 1,311, therefor the total weight of the coal in the area ought to have been 6,640,000 tons. To g:t 2,167,000 tons from the area shows that about two thirds of the coal was lost in some way or other. Evidently there is a mighty difference between the quantity of coal in an acre and the quantity likely to be got from it. In the past it is possible that not more than fifty per cent, of coal in a given area has been extracted. The remainder has been lost. However, with improved systems of mining the future should be better in the way of getting out bigger percentages than the past.

The wire rope, to which reference was made in our issue of 19th, Dec., as having broken the record at Dom. No 3 for longevity and number of tons carried, was procured, we are asked to say, from the well known and reliable firm of Latch & Batchelor, Englaud, who are advertising patr as of the Record. The several firms who advertise wire ropes in our columns are all reliable, indeed were they not so they would not be found there. Each firm has a record for special work

Any one interested in Worthington multistage Turbine Mine Pumps should send to The John McDougall Caledonia Iron Works Company Montreal for their newly Illustrated Bulletin No. 102. It is worth having.

### AROUND THE COLLIERIES.

Springhill seems to be the fortunate hunting

Along the line of many of the U.S. railways great stacks of soft coal are on fire and at Erieau on Lake Erie, coal is being sold at a small figure, from the thousands of ton piles on fire. And mark you this is not cheap Nova Scotia coal but the genuine American article.

The Records information is that peace has not been declared at Springhill, only an armistice. There are interior rumblings. The Record earnestly enjoins caution. Another strike will certainly be the worst, and will assuredly be the last for many a day. One of the old P. W. A. passwords might be applicable to the present situation, 'Better bend than be broken."

Since the company of which Mr. P. McNaughton is manager took hold last Nov., considerable work has been done at the Jubilee mines, Cumb. Co. As the pit had been for a considerable time abandoned, it was naturally much out of repair. Both slopes have been pumped out, repaired and put in fair condition. On pumping out No. 1 pit it was found that the roof had fallen from ten to twenty feet a distance of 100 feet from the face thing ship shape.

The Canadian Mining Institute may not do much to enlighten Canadians, it certainly does its full share in amusing such of them as dearly love a fight. The annual fight is now on, and this time among the victims a Lamb is being brought to the sacrifice. Those reading the story of the annual meeting of the snarling dogs of the Min-ing Institute, will imagine they are in the Spring-hill pepper box trying to work the Lemieux Labor Law. The Pres. and four ex-Presidents—including Chas. Fergie—stand up for the Lamb; the austhat the present docking system would stand Can. Mining Journal and probably others, want cancelled from 1st. Feby. and asked that a con-

The present standard weight of box coal in Springhill mine should be satisfastory to every man working in the employ, and in saying so, says a Springhill correspondent, I speak in the best interest of fairness, peace, and the prosperity of the Town. If the men are not satisfied, what do they want? In all seriousness what can they expect. Are the men thoughtless enough to be-lieve that there is no limit to the give of past Will it never be given to workmen to know when they have reached the limit? Does anyone with ordinary common sense imagine it is not reached at the Springhill Collieries. The man who denies it is not only not a true friend of the workmen, but is unscrupulous.

Well, things are still presperous in Springhill springhill seems to be seemed a who is spite of the pessimism of some of the pessimism of the pessim in spite of the pessimism of some of the people These people still feel sore and are leaving no stone unturned to make trouble between the Coy, and their employees. This set is not made up wholly of employees of the Company, but is drawn from certain professions, some employed and some unemployed.

> The 'standard' weight of box of coal in Spring-hill mines, as publicly made known, was arrived at by ten days run of mine from the several slopes being averaged. This gave the Company a cor-rect idea of what they had been getting previous to the last strike, and what they should get to fill out the final settlement, viz: No advance. Hence any demand for a lower standard weight would simply mean an advance of price on the box which would be a direct violation of the terms of settlement. It is a pity the late (very late) Board of Concilliation could not have thought of that.

A very sad accident occurred in No. 3 mine of the C. R. & C. Co's Collieries, whereby a miner named Adam J. Davidson lost his life. The deceased had been acting as battery tender for some months previous to the accident and was considof the level. To clear away and cut through the ered a very careful man. Exactly how the accid-debris was no little job. Things are now some enthappened no one knows, as there was no one near at the moment, but it is supposed that level in attempting to cross the chute at counter he slipped or missed his grip of the hand rail and slid down the chute which from this point down to main level has a grade of 60 degs. with an intervening fault. He was quickly missed, soon after located and the body quickly recovered, and although every available effort was made to resuscitate him it was useless. He appeared to have died from suffication.

> ference be held to arrange a new system. Mr, Cowans refused to be a party to the conference, and sums up tersely as follows: "Your lodge and sums up tersely as follows "Your lodge might as well recognize now as later that existing conditions will not be changed by any means which you may employ." Under later date the following is the closing paragraph of a communic cation from the company in a local paper. "The company cannot afford to and will not increase wages in any way, is the final and unalterable de-termination of the President and Directors' Than these utterances nothing can be plainer. It seems to many that if the men wish to bring down the whole fabric, Springhill included, even if they perish in the ruins—the one sure way is open to thom. Better pause than be precipitate.

#### THE LEMIEUX ACT.

The crucial test of any statute comes with an attempt to enforce its penal clauses. If this failwith respect to all parties, then the statute itself becomes a dead letter; but if a penal clause is en becomes a dead least; but it a penal clause is en 10 require moor organizations to incorporate, forcible as to one party and not as to the other therefore, would result in immediate improvement then the statute instantly menaces the first party ment in their internal discipline; and each memis operative as to responsible employers, but is to choose his leaders for their business ability and practically inoperative as against irresponsible integrity alone and not for oratarical powers or employees. President Eliot, himself, evidently physical prowess. When this happens, as it must, sions, he says that is an interesting question how the penal clauses of the Act are to be enforced, the penal entries of the Act are to be embred, interests and each capable of discretizations although it would appear from the remarks follother, then will all industrial disputes begin to cedure than to punishment. The Lemieux Act is cedure man to punishment. The Lemieux Act is eneck by laws as prudent and comprehensive as premature. Admirably conceived, formulated the Lemiux Act. But without this equality of with cold impartiality, its influence over the inlegal and financial responsibility it is useless to dustrial world will be inversely proportional to pile statute on statute for, as Kipling says, it is the degree of immunity from prosecution which, end when the pocket book is touched that 'things' in paratise the inversely proportions will be below it. in practice, the irresponsible employee will be happen.'"—(Mining and Scientific Press.) nothing in this Act that makes it practically pos-sible to penalize men that own nothing and that are constantly changing their residences. is nothing in its mandatory strike-clauses to frighten the nomadic miner, for every mine-manager knows that when he wishes to quit work he simply quits and that is all there is to it. He has no need to 'strike' for he is full of plausible excuses, born of a cosmopolitan experience, and his 'inalienable rights' are strongly safeguarded

All this was clearly illustrated during the late unpleasantness at Crow's Nest Pass and, only a few days ago, in the Boundary county of British Columbia. In the latter district, the practical effect of the Lemieux Act was to prevent all reference to wages by the managers, before shutting down the numerous copper mines and smelting plants in their charge. It had been rumored that the men would reject any proposal involving a re-turn to the old scale nothwithstanding that the mines of Butte, Montana, had already done so on November I, in strict accordance with their agreements which were based upon eighteen-cent copper.

The Industrial Disputes Investigation Act of 1907 was, in the beginning of this article, characterized as premature. No one who has ever been party to a serious industrial dispute will hesitate to advocate legislation that will render organized labor equally responsible with its employers, legally and financially; nor will he for a moment doubt that what is most needed to complete the usefulness of the Act in question is another act, or series of acts, compelling organized labor to inorporate, to own property, to maintain a guarantee fund as indemnity against loss to the employer from ill advised or willful acts of employees or their accredited representatives. Stated otherwise, it is high time for politicians to cease dodging this issue and for irresponsible trade unions to perfect their organizations to such an extent that each individual member thereof may go into court with clean hands. equally responsible with

his employer, in every way.

Nor is this at all impracticable or difficult. Combinations of labor are henceforth as inevit-

able as combinations of capital; but it must never be forgotten that, as the late John Marshall said: "It is not safe to trust to human cupidity when it has the opportunity to aggrandize itself at the expense of others."

what happens in the case of the Lemieux Act. It in the acts of his representatives, would soon learn and when labor leader meets business manager on an equal footing, each representing responsible solve themselves almost automatically if held in

#### DOMINION COAL COMPANY, LTD.

-Output and Shipments for January 1907-

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8	-Output-	-Shipments-
8 8 1	Dominion No. 2 61 826 Dominion No. 3 30 044	202 063
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### NOVA SCOTIA STEEL & COAL CO.

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#### INVERNESS RY. AND COAL CO.

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#### ACADIA COAL CO.

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#### INTERCOLONIAL COAL CO.

Shipments	Jany.	190824 94 190723 73	8
Increase		1908 1 2	14

A lamentable accident occurred in Port Hood mine last Friday morning as the pitmen were preparing to start work, whereby ten men, named Mal, Beaton, Jno. A. Campbell, Wm. McKenzie, Allan McDonald and Ln. Gillis, all of Port Hood and Duncan McDonald of Glencoe and four Bulgarians, making ten in all, were instantly killed. A coroner's jury began sitting on Monday afternoon, when no doubt the cause of the accident, as yet unexplained, may be ascertained. It was stated in the press that the accident may have been stated in the press that the accident may have been caused by powder or dynamite. Not at all likely, otherwise the accident would be unique in the annals of coal mining on this continent. The law permits only 5 lbs. of powder to a place. There are instances in N. S. where a cartridge and a keg of powder had been exploderible to the property of the ed without fatal results, and we know of no fatal accident from the explosion of a can of loose powder, though many accidents have taken place Cans have been exploded in the hands of miners without fatal re-The explosion of a keg of powder on one occasion killed a man, in the eighties or prior to that time.

One effect of the Port Hood explosion will likely be

a change in the law in the granting of certificates.

#### BATHS FOR COLLIERY WORKMEN.

The annual visits paid to Continental mines by South Wales mining students are bearing fruit. These men cannot continue to view with indifference the admirable arrangemnts of washing and drying rooms found at all the Westphalian Mines The advantages of the system are manifold, and the students, on returning once more to the circle of their friends, do not forget to point out these adperform yeoman service in assisting to stifle any unreasonable objections that may arise, and prepare their fellow-workmen to become converts to a new custom, which appears to them at once startling and novel. At one time it was feared that the great objection to its introduction into South Wales would come from the workmen themselves. Recent developments have, however, proved these fears to be groundless, and it would appear that the men would be only too pleased to welcome the proposed new system, and pay their portion towards its installation. Mr. Henry Davies, Director of Minvantages, and thus gradually and unoistentatiously

ing for Glamorgan, has made eloquent appeals to the men on the question of the provision of baths and drying rooms at the mine, and has been warmly thanked, and has always received the unanimous approval of his audience. From the point of view of health and comfort it is an ideal system, in no place more so than in this country, where we get without doubt more than our proper proportion of wet weather. From the moral point of view, it is excellent, and some day in the not very distant future we shall look back with shame and disgust at the foolish and degrading custom that once existed of bathing in the so-called privacy of the family kitchen. Common sense is certainly on the side of the proposed new system, and it is to be hoped that the year 1908 will see it become an accomplished fact at more than one of our large South Wales colleries.

Blasting work should be caried out with the least possible risk of danger without reducing the effect of every explosion, these two considerations being of first importance. It is therefore necessary, for the safety of workmen, to be able to ignite a charge from a great distance, and to have complete con trol of the exact moment for the explosion; this is, however, not always possible with a system of ignition not using electricity.

> DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS CANADA.

### Intercolonial Railway

NOTICE RE LEASING OF OLD CAR AND WORK SHOPS MONCTON, N. B.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Secretary of the Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, marked "Tender for leasing car and workshops," will be received until 16 o'clock of the FIFTENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1908, for the acquiring under lease, of the car and work shops with Railways sidings, (at Moncton, N. E.) as designated on ans to be seen at the office of the Secretary of the Department of plailways and Canals, Ottawa, and at the office of the General Manager Rf the Intercelonial Railway, Moncton; the lease to be gentled to cove together with the general terms and conditions in such cases, the rfollowing:—

1—Term 21 years rental named, with right of renewal for second

cases, the following:—

1—Term 21 years rental named, with right of renewal for second
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a Hard Pace Treatle Bridge, etc., at sydney, N. for the construction of Plans and specification may be seen at the Sydney, N. S., and at the Chief Engineer's Office, Moneton, N. B., at Which places forms of Tender and ye bottained with the Paces forms of Tender and ye bottained.

Agents for the ACADIA FIR INSURANCE COMPANY, of Half fax, N. S., in the Town of Stel Sydney, N. S., and at the Chief Engineer's Office, Moneton, N. B., at liberal Commissions. Apply to All the conditions of the specification must be compiled with.

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NY even numbered section of Dominion Lands in Manitoba, Saskatche was "Bd Alberta, excepting 8 and 38, not reserved, may be house-food at least of the section of the secti

The homesteader is required to perform the homestead duties under one

steader.

The homesteader is required to perform the homestead duties under one of the following plans:

of the following

SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH-WEST MINING REGULATIONS.

O.3. Coal lands may be pursuased at \$30 per are for so't coal and \$20 per are for so't coal and

sales.
Placer mining claims generally are 100 feet square; entry fee \$5 renew. able yearly.

A free miner may obtain two leases to dredge for gold of five miles e ch
for a term of twenty years, renewable at the discretion of the Minister of he
Interior.

for a term of twenty years, renewable at the discretion of the Minister of he Interior.

The lessee shall have a dredge in operation within one season from the date of the lease for each five miles. Rental \$10 per annum for each mile of river leaved. Royally at the rate of 2 1-2 per cent collected on the output after it

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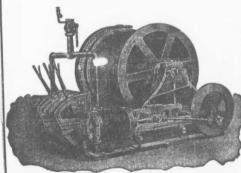
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Read Down	STATIONS.	Read Up				
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S 11 00 S 3 A 1 1 25 L 4 F 4 S 6 F 5 A 5 5 L 5 5 S	MABOU GLENDYRE BLACK RIVER STRATHLORNE	ASLAFSFSFLABBSFSL	10.4	777777777777777777777777777777777777777	3	35.27

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		1 27 " "
		3 97 .11 11
WATER	3 35 " "	4 10 " "
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