MARITIME
MINING RECORD.
JANUARY 23 1918

INVERNESS RY. & COAL CO'Y.

Time Table No. 35, Taking effect 12.01 June 10th., 1917.

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10 40	POINT TUPPER.	3 40
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10 20	PORT HAWKESBURY	3 30
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MARITIME MINING RECORD

Vol. 20 Stellarton, N. S., January 23rd., 1918 No. 4.

INDUSTRIAL PEACE.

Some of the Conditions.

Much is being said and written at the present time about industrial peace, and there are various schemes afoot for promoting it. There is a real desire in many quarters to avoid, if it may be, the acute labor troubles which we can only too easily imagine in the years succeeding the war, not to mention the social upheaval which some phophesy. But it has to be recognized that many of the leaders of labor, as well as the rank and file, are very suspicious of the proposals which are being put forward, and that some of them are openly opposed to any mitigation of the class war; and, similarly, there are on the other side groups of employers who are making their preparations on the assumption that a trial of strength is sure to come, and that labour will have to be smashed. Fortunately, there is a great middle body of moderate opinion whose influence and desires are in the direction of a better understanding. Industrial conflict is not inevitable; industrial peace is possible if we really want it; but it is only possible upon certain conditions, and we shall do well to realize what those conditions are.

By peace, be it noted at the outset, we do not mean stagnation. No arrangement arrived at next year, or in ten years' time, or in a hundred years' time, can stand for ever. Readjustment is necessary from time to time, and for a good while to come the readjustments ought to be, in the main, in favor of the working classes as against the employing and possessing classes, because for a long time past it has been the other way about, and there is a big balance to redress. By peace, therefore, we do not mean a stereotyped, or even a stable, condition of affairs; we rather mean that the adjustments shall be agreed and harmonious, and not be brought about by violent efforts at length overcoming a stubborn resistance.

If we are to have industrial peace, there must be a frame of mind in the comfortable classes which they certainly did not have before the war. They must be willing and anxious for the working classes to have a larger share in the good things of the earth. They must accustom themselves to thinking of a quite big wage as necessary for humble people. They must come to look on it as natural and right that a labourer should have a comfortable home just as much as a professional man, that a factory girl should have a summer holiday just as much as the girl in the suburb. There must no longer be a titter at the notion of a servant-girl wanting a bicycle. The dinginess of the charwoman must cease to be a joke, and be felt as a reproach instead. The middle classes must be prepared to see the standard of living of the working classes approximate more and more to their own standard of living.

It will be asked if such a state of affairs is economically possible. Well, it is quite likely that with an improved standard of living the productive powers of the working classes would be very much improved. Experiments in the economy of high wages have been few and timid as yet. There are good grounds for believing that a greatly increased output is possible without recourse to speeding-up. But if not, the rich must cease to be rich. All must have bread before any have cake. It must be frankly recognized that the existing social differences, the glaring contrasts of wealth and poverty, have no moral justification, and that therefore they ought to disappear. That is the first condition of industrial peace—the rapid and progressive improvement of the standard of living of the working classes.

MR. RUNCIMAN'S CONFESSIONS.

Addressing a gathering of Wesleyan local preachers in the Central Hall, Westminster on "Responsibility and Opportunity After the War," Mr. Walter Runciman declared his strong opposition to State purchase and disinterested management schemes. He made the interesting disclosure that he himself had never made any profit from the sale or carriage of drink, for his father's ships were forbidden to carry a single keg of wine, even though it meant sailing from ports with part cargo only. He declared that the conscription campaign in Canada was handicapped because fathers were unwilling to compel their sons to face in Great Britain conditions in the sale of drink which did not obtain at home. Mr. Runciman claimed that among the changes wrought by the war was that young men were thinking less of material wealth, and quoted a letter written to a well-known industrial magnate by his son in the trenches, in which the latter urged his father not to devote any more of his wealth to investments for him, as he had discovered that there was something greater in life than being at the head of a wealthy business concern.

A WOMAN'S TRIUMPH IN A NEW SPHERE.

Miss Kathleen Forsaith Lander, a student at the London School of Medicine for Women, has obtained the degree of B.Sc. (Lond.) in Anatomy and Morphology with First Class Honours. Only a very few men have won this degree, and Miss Lander (who is not yet 21) was the first woman to sit for it. It is the degree for the future anatomist, and Miss Lander's brilliant success is one of which all women may justly be proud. She is the daughter of Bishop Brook Lander, of the Free Church of England, and a granddaughter of Rev. Robert E. Forsaith, for fifty years an honoured minister in Congregationalism.

MARITIME MINING RECORD.

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

THE RECORD is devoted to the Mining—particularly Coal Mining—Industries of the Maritime Provinces.

Advertising Rates, which are moderate, may be had on application.

Subscription $1.00 a Year. ——— Single copies 5 cents

R. DRUMMOND, PUBLISHER.

STELLARTON, N. S. January 23, 1918

WHERE THE HERALD FELL DOWN.

Some extraordinary statements are being made in reference to the small outputs of the mines, and a consequent shortage of coal, more particularly in Halifax. The coal operators are curiously, in the Record's opinion, purusing a policy of silence. They may treat certain assertions reflecting on the management of the mines with contempt, on account of the display of ignorance on the part of the assertors, but they should not overlook the fact that probably a majority of the people of the province, being unfamiliar with actual conditions at the coal mines, will be apt to believe every uncontradicted statement appearing in the press. The operators may not value public opinion, though they may not hold the same opinion of it as did a famous American. The Record attaches some importance to the opinion of the public, and has a lively interest in the coal trade, therefore, whether agreeable to the operators or not, we will reply to some of the assertions, or rather accusations.

From a letter to the Halifax Herald of recent date, signed by the Secretary of the A. M. W. of Nova Scotia, we take the following somewhat sensational statements:

"It is true that the production of coal has fallen off, but neither The Halifax Herald, nor the local or federal government dare publish or face the truth.

"Here is the truth: you may publish it or put it in your waste basket as it suits you. Five hundred employees of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company were idle for weeks on end this fall because that company 'could not find a market' for the coal raised out of their Jubilee mine. The rest of their fellow workmen said they would take idle days too in order to 'share the market' with the Jubilee men. Next day that company 'found a market' for the Jubilee coal and that mine has worked every day since. These five hundred idle miners could have produced during these idle weeks, sixty thousand tons of coal."

The statement that five hundred employees of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company were idle for weeks on end, and that during these idle weeks sixty thousands tons of coal could have been produced, carries with it its own refutation. At the rate of production per man employed at Sydney Mines, it would take months on end to produce the quantity specified. It is true that Scotia found a new market for the coal of Jubilee mine,—when its former market had closed to that particular coal, but it was not the threat to "share the work" that brought forth the new market. For particulars apply to one McGrath, Fuel Controller. Take notice, also, that there is a discrepancy between what the secretary now says and the threat that was made when the Jubilee lost its market. The secretary now says, "The rest of their fellow workmen said they would take idle days too, in order to share the market with the Jubilee men." This is not the statement formerly given out. It was to the effect that all the miners in Nova Scotia, in the jurisdiction of the A. M. W., would be asked to remain idle two days a week, a very childish proposal, to say the least. The foregoing extract is not quite so silly as the following:

"There are some five hundred coal miners who walk down No. 3 mine of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, past miles of the very best coal, to dig coal of an inferior quality and haul that inferior coal up past, and along the sides of these miles of good coal; and of course the people of Halifax and elsewhere pay for this stupid kind of work. The 'reason' for this is that these miles of good coal 'belong' to the Dominion Coal Company."

And here it is that the Herald made a bad fall. The Secretary invited the Herald if it doubted his statements to step over to the Mines Office and examine a blue print of the No. 3 (or Florence) mine workings. Why did the Herald wholly ignore so kindly and important a suggestion? Had it done so it would have been able to appraise the value to be placed on the whole of the Secretary's communication. If the Herald is really more desirous of securing facts, than dealing in fancies, it will take the Secretary's advice and either ask for a look at the plan of the No. 3 (Florence) mine, or ask the Deputy Commissioner to tell him the total length of the slope in that mine. The Secretary, be it noted, asserts that five hundred miners walk down that mine "past miles of the very best coal." Had he meant to say two miles or even three, he would have said so, and not have said miles, which Halifax readers might naturally interpret as meaning any number of miles over two or three. Let the Herald tell its readers the total length of the Florence slope, and if it is found on examining the records in the Mines Office, to be miles long, then it can boast of having in the Secretary a reliable correspondent. Be it noted further that the Secretary says five hundred miners walk down the mine. That means—taking the official reports of the number of mine laborers and boys as compared with miners—that fifteen hundred men and boys are employed underground at that mine. Assuming, by the way, that these 1,500 men and boys worked 20 days only a month, the output per person employed underground was half a ton per day. No wonder coal is dear. The Record, however takes full responsibility for asserting that not half of the number of miners given by the Secretary walk down the mine daily, or else they are poor diggers. Another most peculiar statement is that the miners—don't forget the number, five hundred—walk down past miles of "the very best coal to dig coal of an inferior quality." Were this latter statement correct, then it would have to be said of the Florence seam, that it belied the characteristics of Nova Scotia coals. We have heard of no case—where there were no faulty interruptions

—where the coal at 600 feet was better than that at 6,000 feet, in the same seam. If coal near an outcrop is what may be termed inferior, the operator proceeds working downward buoyed up with the hope that there will surely be improvement toward the deep, as usually follows in Nova Scotia. Again, by the way—according to the Mines Report—there were for the fiscal year ending September 1916, 26 more men employed at the Princess than at the Florence mine. Let us assume that for the calendar year 1917 the force at Florence was equal to that at the Princess. The output for each of the mines was a little over 175,000. This, we think, affords proof that the walk of the Florence men, of "miles" underground, before getting to their working places, does not impair their efficiency, nor do the miles of alleged extra haulage interfere appreciably with outputs. The Record is at one with the Herald's correspondent in asking that the Herald steps over to the Mines Office and has a look at the blue prints.

- Rubs by Rambler. -

A worthy Grit editor of the old school leads one to believe that the soldiers overseas cannot be classed as Canadian "people." He insinuates that the soldiers, if their votes turn the scale in any county, should not have been given the privilege of upsetting the "will of the people." Poor soldiers.

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An Inverness paper is authority for the statement that the Halifax Herald is possessed of the devil. He repeats the assertion several times, and one might think that the possession was something meritorious, were it not that the Inverness man adds that besides being possessed of the "old boy" the Herald is a d——d fool, and all this because the Herald predicted that the soldiers' votes would turn several votes to the other fellows.

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Speaking of the late Federal election the London Times said:—"Canada is determined to fight freedom's battle to the end. It is too early as yet to estimate the full efforts of her decision, but the words of Wednesday's 'Times' express the universal feeling: "This is a great electoral verdict—momentous in its results, dramatic in its revelation of the high spirit that ennobles the Dominion; a beacon in dark hours to the English-speaking peoples, and a signal proof—at a moment when the lamp of democracy had seemed to burn low—of the heights to which self-government can rise."

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Mr. F. W. Gray's prediction that 1918 will show a further reduction of 400,000 in 1918 is being freely quoted in the newspapers. Something more is wanted. On what does Mr. Gray base his prediction? Is there to be further drainage of labor from the mines? Are more steamers to be commandeered? Are the miners to be even cannier than they have been doing? Is there to be still an insufficient supply of coal cars, or what? Is the deficiency in 1918 again to be chargeable wholly to the biggest producers? If so, there must be some cause. What is it? Unless something unforeseen occurs Scotia will not go behind. Nor will the Acadia, and these, after the Dominion Coal Company, are the largest producers.

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Referring to the coal shortage in Halifax, the Herald, among other things, says: "There are other ways in which relief could be effected should the occasion arise. That the people of Nova Scotia should suffer from a lack of coal recalls predictions that were made some years ago when the control of our coal fields were a subject of much discussion in the local legislature. It is not only possible, but extremely probable, that the government of Nova Scotia will soon find itself pressed hard by a problem which the people of Nova Scotia expect them to solve. The people of Nova Scotia still have some claim on our immense coal wealth and will look to Premier Murray to take the initiative in some movement which will safeguard their interests."

Were I as free to use strong political phrases as two of your eastern contemporaries, my first comment on the extract would be, "Oh, dan." What is the Herald driving at; will it never forget and never learn? The lack of coal, the Herald says, recalls predictions. So it does, but to the utter discomfiture of the prophets of ill. Let the Herald be assured that Nova Scotia, apart from sending men overseas, would have played no prominent part in this war but for the legislation it hints at. The industry at the time of the legislation was waning, in short, was going to the dogs. That legislation saved the industry and was a promoter of activity in many industrial lines. The Herald is doing good work in other directions. My prayer is that the, at times, utter lack of balance it displays may disappear

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President Baxter of the A. M. W., in view of the frequent mischievous statements of his Secretary—Mr. McLaughlin—should be more assertive and tell Jimmie to keep quiet, as he (Baxter), as head of the Society, had better do the talking intended for public consumption, as he could do better. The Record has the impression that President Baxter is a practical man, with a good share of common sense, whereas his secretary is very poetical, without his equal in C. B. as a ranting rhapsodist. The Secretary has on three occasions, within the past three months, publicly expressed his determination to diminish the output of coal by thirty per cent., if certain demands he had made on the companies and government were not complied with. President Baxter, in an interview with a Glace Bay Gazette reporter, displays an entirely different spirit. As head of the executive of the A. M. W. he has inaugurated a campaign whose object is to impress upon the miners the necessity of increased production and regularity of attendance at work. President Baxter, unlike some others, including, if we mistake not, his secretary, does not make excuses for the miners' "off" days, and say "it is necessary that they go shopping with their wives." For commenting on the idle off days at the mines the Record has on more than one occasion been brought to task. It is pleasing, therefore, to have our stand endorsed by the President of the A. M. W. Mr. Baxter said he believed the miners could do many things to help greater production. One of these things, he said, is to stop staying off from work on **Monday after pay.** If all the men would work on Monday, then the out-

put on that day would not, as at present, show a drop of several thousand tons.

* * * *

The subject of this paragraph may be termed "Beer versus Bread." It will be remembered that a book published by Arthur Mee was not allowed by the Canadian censor to be sold in the Dominion, possibly because it hit some privileged ones a little too hard. Mee, however, keeps at it and speaks out without equivocation, and without the fear of the influential ones before his eyes. Here is an extract or two from one of his latest publications. In answer to the assertion that the nation would be split if drink was stopped Mee replies:—

"You would not split the nation by stopping Drink, you say, but it is for you to heal the split that Drink has made, to stand up against this trade that mocks at you, and fights the whole nation as it fights your Y. M. C. A. and our Red Cross, that carries off at the back door all the bread you save at the front. Is not the nation split in two already by this trade? You do grave injustice to decent people in this land if you believe they are not ashamed of all this camouflage that covers up the most stupendous waste in Europe. You do great harm to decent people if you believe that they are not praying day and night that the shadow of this infamy shall pass from our land. You talk of splitting the nation, but what a split is this! On the one hand, all the millions of poor beseeching you for bread, all the bakers and millers waiting for it, all the decent people in this land praying that you will guard our food and keep back famine, all our strength depending on our shrinking loaf; and, on the other hand, the greatest profiteering trade in Britain living and loafing and doubling its profits by destroying 750,000 quartern loaves a day—compared with 120,000 a day destroyed by submarines. If we have not enough bread to eat, where, in the name of England's honour, do these brewers get 5,000,000 loaves a week from? You can never save as much bread by rationing as you could save by stopping Drink. Every time you save two loaves our brewers destroy three. Drink has destroyed 47 weeks' bread and 38 weeks' sugar during the war; it is destroying now one day's bread a week. . . . . "

"Shall we stop this fiddling, Sir Arthur, and face the fact that the Government is afraid of Drink? It has beaten the King, the Prime Minister, the Admiralty, and it is beating you. Our mothers are not going to take food from their children's mouths for any man to fling into a brewer's vat. Wars that come to that must end in shameful peace. You talk of food, and Drink wastes more than ever you will save; you talk of trains, and Drink is blocking our railways; you talk of ships, and stopping Drink next year would set free 40 ships for America all the time. Nothing you can do with your costly and dangerous scheme of rations can equal that. Is it worth while to bolster up a superstition at this appalling price? In ordinary times we can afford it, we can laugh at quackery, we can indulge in luxury, we can stand a thousand things that are dangerous now. We have put them all away save Drink, and this has beaten us all. It robbed us of shells while our men were dying for them; it robs us of bread while our children cry for it; it stultifies all you do and makes your words a farce."

A COMMENDIBLE MOVE.

We take the following from the Glace Bay Gazette of 16th inst. It is pleasurable to be able at least to commend something emanating from the A. M. W.

"Last night the executive of the A. M. W. opened a campaign for the purpose of placing before the miners of Nova Scotia the absolute necessity for producing coal and then more coal. They will address all the Locals of the A. M. W. with one aim in view—a more hearty co-operation among all workmen for increased production of coal so that the war needs of the Allies may be filled. The addresses will consist of heart-to-heart talks on how production can be increased and suggestions will be asked of all who are able to help.

"Speaking to the Gazette yesterday Robert Baxter, vice-president of the A. M. W., said that the government of Canada has asked for a quarter million more tons during the next six months from all the coal mines in Canada. If at the end of that time the required quantity is not forthcoming Mr. Baxter said that it is most probable that Asiatic labor will be imported into the mines to make up for the scarcity of labor. Mr. Baxter deplored that the government should ever have to be driven to such an extremity, because, he said, Asiastic labor will be a most unwelcome thing in the coal mines of Nova Scotia. As he tersely put it, it is far easier to import such men into Canada than to export them after they get here. Once here they hate to leave. Mr. Baxter felt that the miners of these mines could do many things to help greater production. One of these things, he said, is to stop staying off from work on Monday after pay. If these men could be brought to realize the urgent necessity for coal he felt that the Monday-after-pay output from the coal mines of Nova Scotia would not see a drop of several thousand tons.

He suggested other things that could be done. For instance, he said, a heartier co-operation on the part of the miners themselves while at their work in the mine. Drivers could co-operate with drivers, machine runners with machine runners, and so on all along the line. Petty differences should be buried in the interests of the great cause, selfishness could be overcome, and if these things were done much good could be accomplished. A more scientific system of working could be devised by men of the various departments in each of the collieriers, and in that way much valuable time and labor could be saved.

"Mr. Baxter hopes that the efforts of the executive of the A. M. W. will meet with success and it is to be hoped they will. It should not require much urging to make the miners of Nova Scotia realize the great importance of coal to the cause of the Allies. Public opinion throughout the whole of Canada is calling for complete agreement and co-operation in every department of work. Every influence is being used to further and bring about those conditions. The government and the press is urging it; Parliament is legislating for it; and the cause of the Allies is calling for it.

AROUND THE COLLIERIES

The Jubilee mine of Scotia, though it is alleged it was idle for weeks on end did not fall so far behind its older rivals. For a new mine an output of close on 150,000 tons is commendable.

There is a rumor to the effect that the sinking of the new mine at Thorburn may be undertaken by a well-known engineer resident in Stellarton's principal suburb. It is possible the rumor is not without foundation, but at time of writing nothing definite has been agreed upon.

The Albion Mine, which had been sealed up for a time, in an effort to choke off the supposed latent fire, was re-opened a few days sooner than the set time. It was discovered that smoke was still to be encountered in the mine, therefore obliging a re-sealing. This is regrettable in view of the urgent demand for coal. The steps to be taken next have not yet been determined.

The Fuel Controller, or other authority, asks that Canada increase the output of coal the next six months by 250,000 tons. Why, we can do that in Nova Scotia alone, if:—(1) The men work steadily and earnestly; (2) That transportation facilities be unhampered; (3) That certain operators be not forbidden to sell coal at a price set by the Controller, a price in some cases which leaves no profit.

The N. S. Herald places the number of men on the coal end of the Scotia Company at 2,100, and the pay roll at $120,000, which figures out at $285 per day, of 20 working days a month, not far off from the Record's estimate. But surely the Herald is mistaken in the number of men. The Secretary of the A. M. W. says 500 miners walk down Florence mine. That means a total underground force of 1,400 or so. Princess pit has the same number, and then there is Jubilee and Scotia, etc. The Herald evidently is no adept at padding. The Secretary is.

It must be admitted that the Glace Bay Gazette rises to the occasion—occasionally. The Record, from the first, exhibited little affection for the composition and the acts of the Compensation Board, and the Gazette falls down on it like "a hunner o' bricks." It accuses the Board of being as autocratic as some of the executive of the A. M. W. is; that it is a law unto itself, and is responsible to no one, indeed, and in short, that it does as it "blamed" pleases, and there is no one big enough to say it nay. The Board has gone and appointed an imported gentleman to the position of secretary, a Tory to boot, and while there are Liberals in the county of Cape Breton and other counties longing for just such a job with a fat salary. Evidently some newspapers have a double code of morals. It's all wrong for the Federal authorities to exercise "patronage," and it is all wrong if the Provincial Parliament and other bodies don't.

The executive of the A. M. W. summarily turned down the first offer of the Dominion Coal Coy.. On being accused of being far more autocratic than ever was the executive of the P. W. A. the answer was, "The locals sanctioned the demand we made." That may be true, but the locals did not have any voice in accepting or refusing the compromise offer of the coal company. A C. B. correspondent informs the Record that many of the rank and file were displeased at the hasty action of the executive.

There is likely to be some litigation in C. B. over the funds of the P. W. A., now held by John Moffat, as trustee. The understanding at the conference, when amalgamation was decided upon, was that the funds would be handed over to the A. M. W., provided that society remained a purely provincial one. In the event of its incorporation with any alien order the funds were to be divided among the several hospitals. It is said the A. M. W. and the U. M. W. are to join hands. That is just what the Record predicted.

The Barrasois seam has been struck by driving up a borehole at a distance of 950 feet from the mouth of the tunnel. As was stated some time ago this cross-measure tunnel was driven from No. 9 level in No. 14 mine, about one mile distant from the mouth of the slope, and rises at an angle of 14 degrees from the horizontal, the angle of the mine itself, at this point, being about 10 degrees in the opposite direction. So far as it is possible to judge from a borehole, the coal is six and one-half feet thick, clean, and overlaid by hard roof.

The Glace Bay Gazette has the following: "It is understood that counsel for the defendants in the manslaughter case arising out of the Waterford explosion are considering moving for a change of venue, so as to have the case tried in some other county than Cape Breton, probably in Antigonish. The ground for the motion will be that on account of the strong labor feeling in this county it would be difficult, if not impossible to get an impartial jury in this county."

Why Antigonish? Many technical mining points may be raised which possibly are beyond a jury of agriculturists to grasp. What is the matter with Pictou County? In this county there are men well versed in mining matters, who could intelligently follow and weigh the evidence, and pay little heed to the meanderings of certain of the legal fraternity, in short, who cold give sound judgment. However, if the venue is changed to Antigonish, the Record will be content. February travelling is not always comfortable, and, no preventing providence, the Record would like to be at the trial. It strikes the Record as sort of funny that the crown prosecutor should be prosecuting a crown offcial, whom the Department of Mines accounts blameless. Properly conducted, the trial should be of value in revealing weak points, if there be any, in present day mining methods.

Around the Collieries.

The output of No. 1 Mine—Princess—and of No. 3—Florence—of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Coy, are remarkably close. The output of each was 175,000 tons odd, for 1917. And the difference in the number of men in each of the two mines was negligible. People who think coal is high might figure out what coal costs on cars at the pithead, by taking the average net output at 650 tons a day, and the average labor cost $3.00 per man. Then add cost of material, feed, etc., transportation to pier charges, overhead charges and incidentals, and then they may express little wonder when some operators declare they would as soon allow the coal to remain in the mine. In the United States it is not so much a question of price as the question of getting the coal at any figure.

Though the spokesman of the executive of the A. M. W. said two or three weeks ago that that body had said the last word on the wage question, many more words have been said since. Senator Robertson and James Watters were sent to Cape Breton by the Minister of Labor, who had refused an application for a Conciliation Board with Watters as a member, to confer with the parties to the dispute. Conferences were held and a compromise agreed upon subject to approval of the coal company's directors. Another conference is to be held this week, and it is likely an arrangement will be reached which will apply to the several companies in Cape Breton. The executive of the A. M. W. plucked at a gown o' gold and should be content that they get a sleeve o't. The Cape Breton papers are to be commended in running with the hares and holding with the hounds.

A HINDERANCE TO INCREASED PRODUCTION.

The following is from the Herald. The story may be believed as the like has happened before. The one point which is vague and possibly an error is the word "checkweighman." If the checkweighman was away getting married the overman should not have interfered in any way as the checkweighman is elected and paid by the miners. Possibly "company's weighman" is meant:—

"Illustrating one of the difficulties of production at the mines, a Dominion Coal Company official who was in Halifax yesterday cited to The Halifax Herald one instance of the effect the Amalgamated Mine Workers of Nova Scotia are having on production. 'To keep production going well,' said this man, 'it is necessary to have good workers on the bankhead and surface as well as in the mines. No matter how good a miner may be, or how hard he works, his product depends upon how it can be taken away from him. At —— mine a checkweighman went away to get married. The overman placed a man in the cabin to weigh the coal; but the boy who was looking after the tipple demanded that he should be the checkweighman. The overman could not spare him from the tipple and would not give him the job of weighing. The boy quit work altogether, and others quit with him, tying up the whole mine. The Union supported the boy and eventually, owing to the urgent demand for coal, the management had to give in. In the meantime the output of the mine was lessened just that much.'"

ORIGIN AND IMPORTANCE OF COAL.

Having stated in general terms what constitutes a mineral it may now be in order to narrate in detail the several useful minerals of which the province is the possessor, their characteristics and the purposes they serve.

Of all the minerals the province has been endowed with coal takes the premier place. Comparatively few people it is suggested have, with even their every day contact with coal in one way or another, begun fully to recognize the highly important part this mineral plays in modern life. There is nothing over, on, or above the earth's surface that equals, not to say transcends, it in importance and from which so many and diversified articles of commerce which play a momentous part in present day civilization can be extracted and utilized. Some of these shall be enumerated in subsequent articles. Meantime, let the topic be "What is Coal?"

A hundred years ago, or in or about Hugh Miller's time, the idea was clung to in many parts of Great Britain—one may not be able to deal with the idea prevalent in other countries—that the history of coal was coeval with that of creation, as so grandly described in the opening chapter of Genesis. It was then a common belief that, surely, coal was a creation, and not a formation through the action of the forces of nature continued through numberless years. At that time the common people had not been convincingly instructed by scientists that "a day" in Genesis was far other than our division into one of twenty-four hours. In many parts of Scotland—England might be belied if included—a century or so ago, the one who countered, when told that coal was beyond doubt a creation, was looked upon by staunch presbyterians, who believed in no other kind of inspiration than verbal, as being as unorthodox as an Unitarian, and as soft-hearted as a Universalist. Hugh Miller, in his "Testimony of the Rocks," shook, if he did not shatter, many of the old time beliefs, and from that time coal, as a formation, became by slow degrees the common belief. Just why a gradual formation, an evolution, should not be considered as wonderful a thing as a creation is somewhat puzzling at times. To many the impression of every detail of a fern in a fossil creates a sense of keener awe and wonder, gives, so to speak, far deeper pause than does the study of a living fern leaf. How was coal formed? There were formerly varying opinions but these now have been resolved into one with, mayhap, diversity of opinion on one or more unimportant points. The characters of coals—there are several kinds,—are at times rather hard to define. This is proven by the fact that not only in Europe—not only in Scotland, as in the case of the Torbanehill mineral—but in certain of the American courts there has been important litigation involving the determination of "What is coal?" The word coal with us in Nova Scotia means bituminous coals. Coal shale is called simply shale, and

Continued on page 13.

COAL SHIPMENTS, 1917.

—DOMINION COAL CO., LTD.—

MONTHLY SHIPMENTS.

	1916	1917	Inc. or Dec.
January	295,925	266,068	29,857
February	262,583	228,395	34,188
March	268,046	223,092	44,954
April	263,156	246,708	16,448
May	292,093	226 691	65,402
June	391,238	302,864	88,374
July	400,031	306,206	93,825
August	377,570	323,047	54,523
September	351,876	310,646	41,230
October	294,768	320,598	25,830
November	293,505	265,263	26,242
December	261,623	190,827	70,796
	3,752,414	3,210,405	
		3,752,414	
Decrease 1917			542,009

—SPRINGHILL.—

MONTHLY SHIPMENTS.

	1916	1917	Inc. or Dec.
January	27,336	25,694	1,642
February	26,392	22,761	3,631
March	26,030	26,686	656
April	24,084	25,048	964
May	25,264	28,367	3,103
June	20,942	28,116	7,174
July	19,381	26,086	6,705
August	19,889	26,001	6,112
September	24,040	21,070	2,979
October	21,863	20,396	1,467
November	22,095	26,236	4,141
December	24,179	27,033	3,146
	281,475	297,494	
		281,475	
Increase 1917			16,019

—NOVA SCOTIA STEEL & COAL CO.—

MONTHLY SHIPMENTS.

	1916	1917	Inc. or Dec.
January	41,420	44,144	2,724
February	37,824	45,004	7,180
March	38,936	44,112	5,176
April	37,650	44,067	6,417
May	52,937	55,011	2,074
June	46,308	50,340	4,032
July	49,948	49,998	50
August	55,969	50,177	5,792
September	48,846	41,034	7,812
October	50,251	47,528	2,723
November	48,302	48,326	24
December	51,537	38,281	13,256
	559,928	555,022	
		559,928	
Decrease 1917			4,906

—INTERCOLONIAL COAL CO.—

MONTHLY SHIPMENTS.

	1916	1917	Inc. or Dec.
January	5,538	11,907	5,369
February	8,030	10,167	2,137
March	8,956	13,803	4,847
April	10,329	12,465	2,136
May	11,044	12,542	1,498
June	9,509	11,472	1,963
July	9,246	12,421	3,175
August	9,663	14,305	4,642
September	9,826	12,719	2,893
October	9,060	12,425	3,365
November	11,970	13,481	1,501
December	10,785	10,046	739
	113,956	147 753	
		113,956	
Increase 1917			33 797

—ACADIA COAL CO

MONTHLY SHIPMENTS.

	1916	1917	Inc. or Dec.
January	34,115	26,869	7,246
February	35 189	23,136	12,053
March	32,725	23,756	8,969
April	17,489	23,493	6,004
May	22,959	34,302	10,343
June	29,225	37,201	7,976
July	30,779	30,942	163
August	32,579	34,160	1,581
September	26,373	27,559	1,186
October	29,667	28,545	1,212
November	31,044	32,257	1,213
December	22,555	27,971	5,416
	345,699	350,191	
		345,699	
Increase 1917			4.492

RECAPITULATION.

	1916	1917	Inc or Dec.
CAPE BRETON COUNTY.			
Dominion Coal Co.	3,752,414	3,210,405	542,009
N. S. Steel & Coal Co.	559,928	555,022	4,906
Other Companies	44,000	44,000	
	4,356,342	3,809,427	546,915
CUMBERLAND COUNTY.			
Dominion Coal Co.	281,475	297,494	16,019
Mar. C. Ry. & P. Co.	203,887	197,070	6,817
Minudie and others	65.000	55,000	10,000
	550.362	549.564	798
PICTOU COUNTY.			
Acadia Coal Co.	345,698	350,191	4,493
Intercolonial Coal Co.	113,956	147.753	33.797
Other collieries	7,000	60 000	53,000
	466,654	557,944	91,290
Inverness County	245,000	200,000	45,000
Grand Total 1917		5,116,935	
" " 1916		5,618,361	
Decrease 1917			501,426

The decrease would have been some 40,000 tons less but for the stormy weather the closing days of the year.

Continued from page 11.

yet if a court of law is called upon to declare the question, "What is shale?" the decision may be emphatically "Shale is coal." Such a declaration might, possibly, be correct, or again it might be erroneous. It all depends on what the shale was formed from, or of.

A simple division of coal has been made into two classes, namely, hard coal and soft coal. The former does not and the latter does flame, when kindled. For this reason some esteem soft coal more highly, for a grate fire, than its statlier and less frolicsome associate. No head was ever turned "biggin'" castles in the air as he sat gazing into an anthracite fire, while many a fairy, or giant castle has been reared, by elderly folk as well as bairns, as they mused, lost to all else surrounding, watching, half unknowingly, the "fuffing" flames.

If one consults a dictionary as to "What is coal?" he is dismissed somewhat summarily with the bald statement that "coal is a mineralized vegetable substance." The definition is not, probably, quite correct, for there are coals that have not their origin in decayed or mineralized vegetable matter. The Albertite "coal" of New Brunswick, for instance, is alleged not to be from stems and leaves, but from various kinds of fish, and there is no doubt that many of the oil producing shales, not characterized as coal in this instance—of the province, have similar origin. Tersely put, however, there are but two really distinct kinds of coal, hard and soft, or bituminous and anthracite. Anthracite contains from, say, 85 to 95 per cent of carbon, and bituminous from 50 to 75 per cent. The coals having more than 75 and not more than 85 per cent. of carbon may, possibly, be put in the semi-anthracite class.

It is a matter of mere conjecture at what time coal came into use. It does not seem to have been utilized by the ancients, though some declare that the ancient Britons had some idea of its value. It was in consumption—it is stated by one somewhat authoratively—in Europe in the ninth century. Others maintain that it did not come into use until the twelfth or thirteenth centuries. These declare that of the European nations England and Scotland were the first to use it, while another dogmatically affirms that it was in use in Germany a century or more before it found favor in England and Scotland. Take yet another opinion which seems fairly reasonable:

"Coal was known to the Romans, and there are traces in some of their buildings in Northumberland that they used it for fuel. But in the old days the forests supplied plenty of wood; there was little demand for fires for the purpose of manufactures; houses were small and men did not need so much warming as they do at present; chimneys to carry off the smoke were almost unknown, and coal was not very greatly in demand. It began, however, to be sent to London where it was gradually used by smiths and brewers, who needed fires for their trades. In 1305 Parliament complained to Edward I that the burning of coal corrupted the air by its smoke and harmful vapors. An order was made that those who used coal should be punished, and their furnaces destroyed. However, coal was still used in spite of this order, and gradually became more common. In the sixteenth century the population in the south of England greatly increased; trade developed rapidly, the woods had gradually been cleared away, and fuel became more difficult to get. In the reign of Elizabeth coal crept from the forge to the kitchen and the hall. Houses were larger and better built, chimneys were common, whereas formerly, not more than two or three were to be seen in ordinary towns. The coal trade along the Tyne became brisk, and in 1615 four hundred ships were employed in carrying coals from the harbour of Newcastle. Let the quid nunes fight it out among themselves. The ordinary man is satisfied with the knowledge that it is in use now, that its tremendous value has been keenly brought home to all within late years, and that it is now held to be one of the most important of all the indispensible requisites.

As to the origin of coal there are certain and extended learned theories. One of these, in vogue sixty or more years ago, was that the amazingly luxurious vegetation, including mammoth trees, to which pundits give names as hard to get around as their alleged trees must have been hard to encircle, which prevailed during the Carboniferous Age, decayed on land slightly higher than the sea level. In process of time, and by very slow degrees, these layers of rotted matter sank below sea level, and then by great upheavals rose out of the water. Again were they covered with dense masses of plants, again sunk and so the process went on, forest and stream continually "fighting it out." Afterwards, when a trnee had been called, thick masses of stratified matter accumulated, producing great pressure, and this with chemical changes gradually mineralized the vegetable matter, the resultant being Coal.

That was the prevailing view for long. It might be unwise to thrust it aside altogether, as it appeals much more to those who esteem of more value highly speculative scientific opinions, than plain, practical and common sense views, on what, after all, is somewhat of a problem. The writer is of those who hold to the view, which has secured very many adherents during recent years, that it was not necessary that there should have been what is implied in the words "luxurious vegetation," in the formation of coal. Coal was undoubtedly at one time wood, perhaps of shrubs, or bushy plants, such as heather. After decay these formed peat, then by compression and expulsion of gases, the peat became lignite. A continuance of this operation and bituminous coal was the result, and a still further continuance with increasing pressure and anthracite is formed. Large wood is not necessary to the formation of peat, and peat is the basis of coal. It is now assumed by many that instead of being composed of heavy wood coal had its origin in bushy and somewhat dwarf growth. Those who have travelled over peat bogs or peat lands, or better who have witnessed the operation of turf or peat cutting, as it is done in Ireland and Scotland, must have noticed that the top layer, say a foot in depth, is open, light in color, and spongy. The stems of the plants, not yet fully decayed, of the thickness of a knitting needle to a clay pipe stem, can be readily drawn out of the peats, which are of the size of an ordinary brick. A foot below, the peat is less open, loses some of its turfy appearance, and is of a darker color. The deeper the operation goes the grain becomes closer, the color darker, the peat more compact and heavier, though not so compact

as coal, as it is still swollen with water. Peats made from the top layer may easily be torn asunder by hand, from the second layer not so easily, while from the bottom layer they can be broken only by the application of more or less force. Time and pressure, combined with chemical action, are the two things alone necessary to transform peat into coal. This opinion is persisted in by numbers in face of the fact that solemn declaration has been made, that at a certain point off the coast of France, the process of coal formation from a submerged forest of wood of large growth can be witnessed. Decaying wood may be seen, but not any coal forming, for in the formation of the coal known to us it is necessary that there be strata and there will be no strata, at least not in our day. By the way it is further contended there must have been wood of very large growth before coal was formed. Else how come it that "pots," petrified parts of trees of large diameter, are found in coal seams. The answer is that "pots" are not found in coal seams, but in the immediately overlying strata formed ages after the vegetable matter had decayed, and who knows what capers nature had played in the interval. These "pots" are either the remains of solitary trees, petrified, which grew among the smaller herbage; or trees, or parts of trees, that were carried by floods, from other territory, by the "floods" alleged to play a prominent part in coal formation, into that of the smaller plants. Solitary trees can frequently be seen at longer or shorter intervals in peat lands, appearing like sentinels on guard, trees which grew there possibly from a seed or a spore wafted by the wind from a distant forest, just as thistledown is carried from Prince Edward Island, across the dividing waters to Nova Scotia.

Fire, too, possibly played a part in coal formation. The writer handled a charred stem of wood, about eight inches in length and of the thickness of an ornamental walking cane, taken from the middle of a lump of coal mined at the Black Diamond Colliery, Westville, Pictou County.

The foregoing embodies the writer's ideas as to the origin of coal, but they are not, possibly, in conformity with the views of certified geologists, and their opinions, as a matter of course, take precedence of those of a layman. It is not politic to be too "sot," to use an Americanism, on any particular opinion. Some are rightly less concerned as to the theory of the formation as to the fact that coal exists in abundance in the province. For all that we are not done with theories. The foregoing remarks may be a trifle prosy for some readers. If a more poetical and ornate description of the origin of coal is demanded, why, then, take an author who, luckily for himself—and unfortunately for the genuine wits to be met with in certain mining districts, grimy and dull though their surroundings may be—cannot at present be located:—

"Of the falling autumn leaf glorious in crimson and gold, the wind and the rain and the tramping hoof, leaving a weak but a black smudge—that is carbon.

"Before man trod the earth, while yet the mammoth lizard led creation's van, in the wet and nitrogen laden atmosphere, grew dense forms of giant ferns, and trees, leaf, and branch and stem fallen decillions through the millions of years, formed peat-like bogs, from which gases well, while the carbon remained and hardened as it sank. Primeval forces hurled the ocean upon the land covering the carbon beds with salt and sand, became shale and stone. Upon the land exhumed again great forests grew to be likewise covered by the ocean or Glacial drift. Thus during vast cycles was formed the alternate layers of coal and slate and stone, the greater the pressure the less of gas and the more of carbon remains within. The cold peat becomes lignite; the lignite was pressed into cannel; the cannel is compacted into bituminous; beneath the mighty crash of mountains turns bituminous to anthracite. These differing kinds of coal being due in part to the quality of the original vegetation, and the decillions caused by subterraneous gases, and over and again cooling earth, shrinks and shrivels, wrinkling the layers of coal and slate and stone into furrows of hill and valley, the anticlinal crest and synclinal trough."

At the conclusion of the transcript the inclination was to mutter "By George," or some other pressure relieving phrase. Of course, like ordinary poets, the author of the extract eschews logic. If pressure is responsible for making peat into lignite and so on, then the character of the vegetation may have something to do with the quality of each individual coal, but not with the "kind" of coal.

NOVA SCOTIA'S IRON ORE.

While next to Ontario, Nova Scotia has to its credit the largest aggregate output of iron ore of any province of the Dominion, the total tonnage from the earliest days to the present would not last a large modern plant very many years. In 1915 840,394 tons of Newfoundland ore was used in Nova Scotia blast furnaces. Latterly, with the exhaustion of the workable deposits of better-grade ore, production has declined until now it has reached the vanishing point. The extensive development of the Wabana iron ore field in Newfoundland and the ease and cheapness with which Nova Scotian furnaces can secure a supply of suitable ore from that source, have also operated to decrease interest in the development of local supplies.

HOW LAW IS ENFORCED IN BRITAIN.

For falsifying returns in order to evade payment of income tax and excess profits duty six defendants were sentenced at Leeds Assizes to imprisonment in the second division for periods varying from three to six months.

Mr. G. K. Chesterton was fined 10s. for not shading a light in his bedroom.

For causing a pacifist leaflet said to be calculated to cause disaffection to the King, to be distributed, a man was sentenced at Bow Street Police Court to three months' imprisonment in the second division.

No French restaurant may serve a single customer with more than 3½ oz. bread at a meal costing over 3s. 4d., or more than 5 oz. at a meal costing less than 3 s. 4d., and the consumption of confectionery and biscuits is prohibited.

"TWO IDEAS OF SWANK."

At the American Luncheon Club Dr. Fort Newton told one very good story and mentioned one exceedingly interesting fact. When on the Western Front he was convoyed as far as the door of an American hospital by an English officer who wore a monocle. The American boys asked Dr. Newton why the officer wore an eye-glass. Dr. Newton jokingly replied that possibly the reason was one-tenth defective vision and nine-tenths swank. The Americans said they thought that was so. "But stay," said Dr. Newton, "let me tell you something I have discovered about that officer. He has lost three brothers in the war, he has himself been wounded three times, and he has won the Victoria Cross. Now, you notice that he did not wear any decorations—he hadn't any gold wounded-braids on his sleeve, and he did not even wear the ribbon of his V. C. He would say that to wear them would be swank. But an American would probably put on all the decorations he was entitled to. The English and the Americans are different—that is all. And each must understand the other to appreciate him at his true worth."

VERY SHORT RATIONS.

Mrs. Peel, of the Ministry of Food, speaking at Bath, said an English lady just returned from Berlin as an exchanged prisoner, told her that when she left Berlin the allowance of meat was only half a pound, including bone, per head per week. There was no tea, coffee, cocoa, sago, rice, or tapioca, and nobody except children under five was allowed milk. No person was allowed more than 2oz. of fat and one egg a fortnight. There was no jam, and if sugar was used no treacle was allowed, and if treacle then no sugar. If women wanted new clothes they had to get a permit from the Mayor, who decided whether or not their attire was sufficiently decent for further wear. If the Mayor agreed that new apparel was necessary the applicant had to surrender the old clothes for conversion into shoddy. The cheapest woollen stuff to be purchased in Germany was 30s. a yard.

At the Law Courts, London, the Food Controller and his Director of Food Supply appealed for support for their League of National Safety. When Lord Rhondda referred to the man who said, "Perish the Empire, but save my rasher of bacon!" a voice inquired, "What about Beer?" A remark about "food hogs" evoked the inquiry, "What about brewer hogs?" When Lord Rhondda referred to compulsory rationing, the voice insisted, "Not till you close the breweries."

Speaking to a crowded meeting at Sheffield, Lieut. Colonel Rev. C. Seymour Bullock, of the Canadian Forces, said he saw no reason why he should deprive himself of bread whilst he was in this country, when he knew that his wife and children at home were on short rations because of the grain which was being sent here for the manufacture of strong drink.

Sir Arthur Yapp says that at a private meeting of the Free Church Council Executive he was required to define his attitude on the drink question, and to meet the criticism that too much barley and sugar is being used for the manufacture of beer. He told the Council that he was a strong teetotaler, and had been left absolutely free by the Government, and pointed out that the brewing industry was the first to be rationed. But, rightly or wrongly, the large percentage of workers regard beer as a food, and he must be careful not to touch the beer of the worker, unless at the same time the expensive wines of the upper classes were dealt with just as drastically. Nothing must be done which would be unfair to a large section of the community, and it would be no good closing public-houses till something more attractive could be put in their place.

In reply to a correspondent, Sir A. Yapp has stated that some distinction should be made between abstainers and beer drinkers in regard to bread rations. It is suggested that beer drinkers should reduce their ration by 1oz. of bread for every pint of beer.

At a meeting of licensed victuallers in Bristol a resolution of protest was carried against the Local Food Control Committee's refusal to allow sugar for use in hot beverages during the winter. "Was it fair," the chairman asked, "to withhold sugar from them and use it for sweetening tea? Tea was not a necessity, but spirits frequently were."

During the summer, it is stated, at least 800 tons of coal have been taken to a small distillery in County Antrim, and large supplies of barley are now pouring in, and local people doubt whether there can be any shortage of cereals or coal.

Miss Adela Pankhurst's appeal against the sentence of nine months' imprisonment for encouraging damage to property has been dismissed by the Australian High Court.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, for many years Chief Chemist of the United States, says that alcohol might as well be dropped from the pharmacopœia—it is so seldom used in prescriptions by progressive physicians.

Synopsis of Coal Mines Regulations.

COAL mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the North-West Territories and in a portion of the province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years, renewal for a further term of 21 years at an annual rental of $1 an acre. Not more than 2560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal sub-divisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory, the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of $5 which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, rescinded by Chap. 27 of 4-5 George V. assented to 12th June, 1914.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy Minister of the Interior.

N. B—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for,—83575.

CANADA.
DEPARTMENT OF MINES.

Hon. Arthur Meighen, Minister.

Mines Branch.

Recent Publications:

Building and ornamental stones of Canada, (Quebec), Vol. III, Report on, by W. A. Parks, Ph. D.

The Bituminous Sands of Northern Alberta, Report on, by S. C. Ells, M. E.

Peat, lignite, and coal; their value as fuels for the production of gas and power in the by-product recovery producer, Report on, by B. F. Haanel, B. Sc.

The petroleum and natural gas resources of Canada: Vols. I & II. by F. G. Clapp, M. A. and others.

Electro-plating with cobalt, Report on, by H. T. Kalmus, Ph. D.

The Mines Branch maintains the following laboratories in which investigations are made with a view to assisting in the developing of the general mining industries of Canada:—Fuel Testing Laboratory, Ore-Dressing Laboratory, Chemical Laboratory, Ceramic Laboratory, Structural Materials Laboratory.

Application for reports and particulars relative to having investigations made in the several laboratories should be addressed to The Director, Mines Branch, Department of Mines, Ottawa.

R. G. McConnell, Deputy Minister.

Geological Survey.

Recent Publications:

Summary Report of the Geological Survey for the Calendar Year 1916.

MEMOIR 20. Gold fields of Nova Scotia, by Wyat Malcolm.

MEMOIR 44. Clay and shale deposits of New Brunswick, by J. Keele.

MEMOIR 59. Coal fields and coal resources of Canada, by D. B. Dowling.

MEMOIR 60. Arisaig-Antigonish district of Nova Scotia, by M. Y. Williams.

MEMOIR 78. Wabana iron ore of Newfoundland, by A. O. Hayes.

MAP 63A. Moncton Sheet, Westmorland and Albert Counties.

MAP 150A. Ponhook Lake Sheet, Nova Scotia.

Applications for reports should be addressed to the Director, Geological Survey, Ottawa.

Concerning the 'Record'

The first Number of the 'Trades Journal' was issued the first Wednesday of 1880. The 'Journal', while taking a deep interest in the Coal Trade, was more particularly interested in matters affecting the welfare of those employed in the coal mines of the Province. Its aim was to secure for these better working conditions, and to give them the standing in the community to which, it thought, they were entitled. That much good was accomplished along these and kindred lines is acknowledged by all able to make comparison between conditions as they existed in 1880 and as they exist now.

In 1898 the name was changed to the **Maritime Mining Record**, in order to express more distinctly the place it was intended to occupy. Since then, till now, its pages have been devoted chiefly to coal mining, which is the staple industry in Nova Scotia. With the growth of the trade it has grown in influence, and is now considered the one reliable authority on all matters connected with the coal trade.

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The Record is always consulted on all subjects, and its advertising columns are carefully scanned by Directors, Managers, and Purchasing agents.

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