E. R. Faribault, Geological Survey

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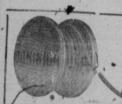
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SOUTHBOUNI Superior Dir.		NORTHBOUND Interior Bir
436.	STATIONS.	4376
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7 40	MABOU	6 11
7 25	GLENDYRE BLACK RIVER	6 38
6 58	STRATETURN	8 56
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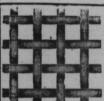
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Coal Boring Machines. Stone Boring Machines. Ratchet Boring Machines. Breast Augers. Tamp Bars. Spike Bars. Machine Picks. 1 Picks. Needles. Stemmers.

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All Our Tools are built on practicable lines, and guaranteed to give satisfaction.

Home Office: NEW GLASGOW, N. S. Branch Office and Warehouse, Leithbridge, Alta.

Concerning the 'Record'

The first Number of the 'Trades Journal' was issued the first Wednesday of 1880. 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 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 place it was intended to occupy.

Since then, till now, its pages have been devoted chiefly to coal the place it was intended to occupy. mining, which is the staple industry in Nova Scotia. fluence, and is now considered the one reliable authority on all matters connected with the coal trade. With the growth of the trade it has grown in in-

MARITIME MINING RECORD

Vol. 20

Stellarton, N. S., February 13th, 1918

No 15.

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BRITISH LABOR WAR AIMS.

Restoration of devested areas to be met as far as keener than ever.

Labor Movement Special Conference, at the Central Even though or

Hall, Westminster, adopted with practical unanitary wars, economic Union Congress and the Executive Committee of the Labour Party. The Memorandum supports the continuance of the struggle "that the world may hence-forth be made afe for democracy," and as a means to this end relied on the complete democratisation of all countries, the abandonment of every form of "Imperialism," the suppression of secret diplomacy, universal abolition of compulsory military service, common limitation of armaments, and the establishment of Stper-National Authority, or League of Na-For the purpose of removing any obvious cause of future international conflict, certain territorial readjustments are required, but they must be principle of allowing all peoples to settle their own

To Belgium there must be reparation by Germany, payment for damage, and destoration of complete in-

be their future political position.

The Balkans should form a federation of independent States, according to predominant nationalities.

The claim of people of Italian blood "left outside" the Italian boundaries to be united with their own race is supported, but Imperialist aims of conquest are repudiated.

Poland and Luxembourg to settle their own des

Palestine to be a free State for Jews, under international guarantee,

istered by a commission under the League of Na-

tions.

endent African State.

possible by an intrenational fund.

of Claims and Accusations, of acts of cruelty, vio-garments worn by them. lence and theft against individuals.

ECONOMIC STRUGGLES AFTER THE WAR.

possible after the war is decessary if the nation is serve the traditions of the sea and be the last to leave to retain its trading and commercial eminence. To the ship entrusted to me. My life I sacrifice in ad-

must adapt themselves to changed conditions, for it is certain that international competition will be

Central Even though one result of this war be to end mili-unanitary wars, economic struggled between nations will mity the Memorandum of War Aims submitted joint remain, and whilst none desire the economic destrucly by the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade tion of even enemy peoples, our primary concern will be to secure the economic recovery of our own and the Allied nations. The demand for the materials of production will be so great that we must exert ourselves to control them as much as possible and to divert them to our own shores and to Allied countries. If it be that the sufferings of enemy countries are prolonged, is not this the just punishment of the sins they have committed?

With a view to securing the greatest posible harmony in national industry the Governmen and encouraged the establishment of councils eq. presentative of, employers and workmen in every industry. These councils should help to remove arrived at by common agreement on the general trade matters from the cockpit of party politics. Both employer and employed will increase their knowledge and understanding of cach other, and the advice they tender could not be gnored by any Gov-

In connection with reconstruction, many projects Alsace and Lorraine to decide freely what shall are being framed. The Ministry of Labor, for instance, contemplate considerable expansion of the Trade Board system in order to secure that every willing worker shall receive a wage corresponding to a decent fiving standard. This is supplementary to the work of trade unions, and will provide workers generally with the means of steady progression towards the perfectly just and equitable system of reward for good labor.

In enumerating some of the advantages of electric Armenia, Mesopotamia, and Arabia to be admin- light, Professor J. A. Fleming, in his lecture on electricity at the Royal Institution, said the light produced no ashes, no smoke, no products of combus-The colonies of the European Powers in tropical tion; there was no wasteful radiation; it was clean, Africa should be transferred to the League of Na- instantly ready, and economical, although as to the tions and permanently neutralised as a single indep- last point it depended on the price at which electrical energy could be supplied. In speaking of the uses Restoration of devastated areas to be met as far as of the electric current he said that it was now used in the making of clothing for our airmen, a current Reparation, after judicial investigation by a Court carrying the electrical heat into the materials of the

An Italian girl enjoys the honor of being the first regularly-appointed captain in her country's merchant marine. In a letter to the Petit Journal she The reconstruction of the country as quickly as writes: "If my fate is to be torpedoed, I shall obdo this many ideas hitherto-held by both employers vance; it is at the service of my country and of my and workmen must be abandoned. Both sections dear, noble sisters. France and England,"

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

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R. DRUMMOND. PUBLISHER.

STELLARTON, N. S.

rebruary 13, 1918

THE LATE DISASTER

So fully has the press, daily and weekly, entered into details of the explosion at the Allan Shaft, that it is scarcely necessary that the Record say much other than what may be desirable for future reference.

The accident occurred shortly before 6 o'clock on

the evening of Wednesday, 23rd inst.

At that hour the night shift was on duty. The number of men who had gone down, according to the number of safety lamps given out, was 96. Of this number nine got out alive, leaving a death roll of eighty-seven.

Up to the time of writing any opinion expressed as to the immediate cause of the calabity is wholly conjectural. Something, possibly, may set be discovered which will give an inkling as to ing cause, and, yet, the possibility, perhaps we say probability, is—as was the case in the explosion of 1880—that no definite, and fully acceptable, reason shall be forthcoming. The general opinion at the time of the 1880 explosion, was that it originated in the south side of the mine, where a number of men had been instructed to go and remove a drum not in use. It is presumed that some overhardy workman unscrewed the top of his lamp to get it relighted, or for another purpose. At that time the lamps were not "securely" locked, and at that time, also, the law in reference to pipes, matches, and tobacco was not, it is feared, rigorously carried out. Indeed the Record is assured by one who worked in the Foord Pit, previous to and up to the time of the explosion, that there were, on not rare occasions, violations of the law, or instructions. It is doubtful if, in 1880, special rules were in vogue at any of the collieries. The explosion of that year is responsible for the securing of many needed amendments to the Coal Mines Regulation Act. As in the late disaster, so in the explosion of 1880, no damage, of any nature, was done to the surface plant. There was no indication whatever on the surface of the devastation created underground. Fire followed the 1880 explosion, and after all inlets of air had been securely closed, a connection was made with the East River, and the mine flooded. An attempt was made in the late 'eighties to recover the mine, and to work the under part of the seam by a system known as the "umbrella" roof. From some reason—the point is a debateable one—the attempt, we dare not say ended Chronicle devotes much space to that most difficult in failure, was abandoned. Different reasons are as—subject, "Ventilation of Mines." While the Record

The damage done in the late disaster is reparable without any great expense, and the delay is not expected to be serious.

On the 23rd inst., and succeeding days, there was no lack of volunteers to aid in rescue work. A dislocation of some kind at the bottom of the shaft interfered with the proper, working of the cage for a time. A number of men, nine in all, working in the 500 and 900 lifts, were taken up in the cage before the bottom of the shaft was put in order. . These were the only men who escaped. Some declare that there was tremendous force to the explosion. Possibly, but the fact remains that it was not any noise or concussion that caused the men in the upper lifts to conclude that something unusual had occurred. No entrance could be made by way of the second shaft, as it was the uptake or outlet for the air, and of course at the time was charged with deadly gases.

Draeger men from Cape Breton were to hand in remarkably short time, ready to assist in any work that might be required of them. Mr. Tonge, of the Dominion Coal Co., and the ever ready T. J. Brown, were at the pit head all the way from Cape Breton within twelve hours after the explosion. These were followed closely by mining experts from far and near, and by miners from the collieries in the county. Indeed some of the officials of neighboring mines, accompanied by practical miners, were on the spot before many in the community had become fully aware that so terrible a thing had hangened.

Deputy Inspector of Mines Gray was on the spot at six o'clock, as were all the mining and engineering staff of the Acadia Coal Co., with Mr. Prud-homme, General Manager, to advise and render encouragement. Malcolm Beaton, Malcolm Blue and Harry Coll, the three of them formerly superintend ents of the colliery, were leaders of the various squads engaged in rescue and first exploratory work. As for helpers there were more volunteers than work or places at the times could be found for.

As has been characteristic of nearly all the great and lesser mine explosions in Nova Scotia, there were witnessed none of the distressing, heartrending scenes which the papers have described as following similar catastrophes in some other lands. The fortitude, the grave and appealing composure of the relatives of those imprisoned in the mine, was most remarkable. Each heart knew its own bitterness, and wisely, heroically, and of course unselfishly, forbore to add, by giving way to wailing expressions of agony, to the bitterness in the hearts of the others, in similar case. There was none of that piercing wailing which is contagious, and whose effect is confusing and dispiriting. Of the volunteers it may be truly said that they well maintained the best traditions, the grand reputation for fine heroism which has ever been accorded to the men of Nova Scotia, a reputation of "aye ready" when and where duty and danger call.

MINE VENTILATION.

may hold opinions not quite in consonance with

those expressed, no criticism is possible of the spirit Rules can only, in a majority of cases, be general, tion of any coal mine, worked on a big scale, and mon sense, of the mine officials. The ablest mining having hundreds of ramifications through which the men in the province are in the service of the companiar must travel, or be carried, is a subject attended ies, fully as competent as men in the United States with tremendous difficulties. If a mine consisted of or elsewhere to intelligently conduct mining operatory long levels or roads, then ventilation would be tions. Where would the Government get men to child's play. It is these ramifications that cause the frame and see to the carrying out of positive rules? trouble. No one would engage in mining if a condi- The question is beyond the Record. tion was that every section of the mine, however limited the area, should have an independent intake and return air course. In almost every mine there are parts that get more air than necessary, white . there may be some that do not get as much as desirable. Then, conditions in a mine are variable; a supply of air sufficient for to-day, and ordinary days, ing reference to the decreased coal production of may be insufficient for to-morrow, and days when the province:

conditions are abnormal. One of the largest col
The decrease in the production of our coal mines lieries in France, if not in Europe, had several years was the most disappointing feature of our industrial ago so high a reputation for being well conducted position, and every well wisher of the krovince of that a delegation of experts was sent from Britain to examine and report upon the mine, so that, if the mines and the mines themselves will be able so to system of operation was found to be in any way in co-operate that this vital industry shall in future be advance of those in Britain it might be adopted. The delegation brought back a report which eulog-ized the system and recommending the adoption of the reference. Being an official of the biggest comcertain features of it in the British mines. Not very long after this most favorable report had been pubconsidered to be a model, which resulted in an appalling loss of life.

Not long ago the writer had a talk with a high official of the Government on this subject. The re k was let fall that it was impossible to keep eertain mines free of gas. To this was made the retort,
If that be so, then why should Rule 1 of General Rules, remain on the statute books. Why not remove it wholly, or have it amended that it will not ask that an impossible thing must be done?" Rule

1, Sec. 46, C. M. R. reads:

"An adequate amount of ventilation shall be constantly produced in every mane to dilute and render harmless noxious gases, to such an extent that the working places of the shafts, levels, stables and workings of the mine, and the travelling roads to and from such working places shall be in a fit state for passing and working therein."

If this rule could be complied with there would be no purely gas explosions. Can it fully at all times? Our contemporary in the opening sentences of the

article says:

"The terrible disaster at the Allan Shaft-demonstrates anew that the Government should take charge of the way mines are operated. We do not mean that the Government should operate the mine, but that they should lay down positive rules for operating them. Without going further away than this county there have been warnings enough to show that there is something radically wrong in the system under which they are operated. Take, for instance, the Allan Shaft with the repetition of the tragedy of the Foord Pit. The coal in that mine is valuable, but the mines are permeated with inflammable gas-the cause of all the trouble so fal as men on the street know.

The Record is afraid too much is asked of the Goernment in the above extract. Can positive rules be formulated and acted upon? We are afraid not.

gracterizes the article. The proper ventila- much being necessarily left to the judgment, com-

CAUSES OF DECREASE IN OUTPUTS,

Lately, in a speech, the President of the Haliffx Board of Prade, Mr. McGillivray, made the follow-

Vova Scotia will hope that the management of the

kept at its maximum production.

pany he cannot speak with that abandon which is the privilege of the Record. He must tread gently, lished, an explosion occurred at this very colliery, lest he trample on the toes of any body of workers, or their leaders. Mr. Gray demurs to President Me-Gillivray's suggestion that there was a lack of cooperation between mine workers, and mine operators, and that this tack was responsible, in part, for the aggravating reduction in output in 1917. Mr. Gray proceeds to give what, in his opinion, was the chief factor in the diminished output. With this no possible fault can be found; on the contrary, every statement which throws light on the vexed question should be welcomed. The question, then, naturally arises, Had President McGillivray any justification, any reasonable grounds, for a statement? The Record is inclined to think he had. Through the Halifax press the public of Nova Scotia were unhesitatingly told that but for the favoritism displayed, or from the discrimination practiced by the officials of the Dominion Coal Co. towards certain of their employees, the output would be, oh, ever so much larger, and all diminution removed; in short, that there would as an increase in output that would astonish greatly the community. Of course that was all the most bellowing kind of binkum. There was, however, no contradiction; the assertion was passed unnoticed by those it affected most, and little wonder, then, if President McGillivray came to the conclusion that what the press said, on the authority of a labor ledder, was the unvarnished truth. The name of the one who made the assertion that there was lack of co-operation, was given in the press, and this was a challenge for a denial, if one was possible. Mr. Gray now makes the assertion that the statement was incorrect. Pity it had not been made preriously. Presumably it was not contradicted on the assumption that no one would believe it. The fact that so astute a man as President McGillivray took it as a truth, bears out the contention in the last Record, that silence at times is, well, say, sinful. The Record agrees with Mr. Gray that shortage of men, due to enlistments, was the chief factor in the

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diminished output, in Cape Breton County. diminished output, in Cape Breton County. Mr. careless of actuary, and not to find out whether ecogram, in justice to himself, should have stated that onomy of production" on the company's part was ton County. If, then the output of the two main- facts, and opinions, that will tend to the prevention land counties has increased, it cannot be claimed that of such terrible occurrences. It may be taken for the shortage of men has vitally affected them, as is granted that the Acadia Coal Co. will place no obthe case in Cape Breton. Indeed there were other stacle, but rather render help in any investigation mainland. The two causes were mine fires and inmainland. The two causes were nine nees and in-adequate transportation facilities. Curiously, the shipments from the mainland in 1917 were the best since enlistments began, and only abree thousand; their President or Secretary, Mr. Stewart, if he ever tons less than the best output year, 1913. Here are heard of the old saw, "Let the shoemaker stick to the outputs from 1912 to 1917. Year 1913, 1,109,000; his less!" No doubt Mr. Stewart is the condity family 1914, 1,047,000: 1915, 1,017,000; 1916, 1,016,000; 1917, 1,106,000 tons, a most remarkable showing. But a still more vemarkable, indeed an almost intexplicable thing is, assuming that the tables, giving number of men, in the official yearly report are reliable, that in 1915 it took 1,800 men to produce 1,017,000 odd tons of coal, whereas in 1916 it took only 1.520 men to produce 1.012.000 tens odd. Put another ways the men of 1916 produce 1.012.000 tens odd. Put another ways the men of 1916 produce 1.01 tens each more per man in the year 1915. This is something to be grateful for and, for impelling us to ferret it out, the Record's thanks

are due Mr. Gray. In speaking of outputs it might be well to differentiate as between the Island and the Mainland.

- Rubs by Rambler. -

The following from the Coal Trade Journal has in it, shall it be said, a hidden truth, that may be well taken to heart by certain newspapers and hany individuals who are clamoring for government control of the coal mines: "'Why do the heathen so furiously rage and why do the people imagine a vain thing?' A great deal of the criticism on the Garfield order seems to reflect disappointment more than anything else. The public in general was crazy for Government control, as the saying is. It wanted to have the coal trade controlled as the railroads had speen controlled for years past. Well, they got what hey wanted, but if it so happened that they got it in the neck, that is another story, as Mr. Kipling said. And now, to quote that virile writer of pioneer days, old Bret Harte of California, "Walk, damn you,

Mr. careless of a duty, and not to find out whether "echis references were to Cape Breton Chunty alone, responsible, for the very reason that at times the for what he claims to be the chief factor is scarcely writer believes that on certain past occasions exapplicable to the Mainland efflicties. It may not treme precautions had been taken, in short there for what he claims to be the chief factor is scarcely writer believes that on certain past occasions expected to the Mainland efficies. It may not from precautions had been taken, in short therever the denied that Cumberland and Pictou Counties conhave been at times all but unnecessary precautions, proportionately, they did about as well as Cape Brecoal infining is an investigation that will bring out the content of the two pains. Says and entities that will tend to the precessing

> his last." No doubt Mr. Stewart is thoroughly familiar with what concerns railway travel and traffice but that is not a sufficient reason for assuming that he is competent to tell the public the ins and outs and whys and wherefores of inadequate outputs. Mr. Stewart boddly declares that the assertion that the miners were not all doing their utmost in this time of stress is unfounded. That is equivalent to saying that he knows more about the coal business than Mr. Baxter, the vice-president and a leader in the A. M. W., the Nova Scotia miners' union, with a membership, it is claimed, of 9,000. Mr. Baxter and other leader of the society began a propaganda a fortnight or so ago, the object of which was to enjoin upon the men not only the desirability but the absolute necessity, of working regularly. Mr. Baxter to a Cape Breton press representative declared that a big effort would be made to induce the miners to work steadily and not go idle on the Mondys after each weekly pay, as so many did. If Baxter and other of the officials of the A. M. W. see the necessity for thus enjoining the members, then Mr. Stewart is wholly astroy in asserting that the workers are in no way responsible if there is diminished out-

The coroner's inquest in connection with the disaster did not begin as expected last Wednesday. When the coroner was about to begin his inquiry objection was taken to the constitution of the jury in that it did not comply fully with the statute, as miners from other collieries were lacking. The act, sub-section 7, section 45 reads:-"Whenever practicable the coroner shall require the constable, or other officer to summon, as jurymen, not less than three working men employed at any other mine than that at which the accident occurred, who shall form part of the jury sworn at such inquest." This section of the act has not, it is feared, been generally complied with for some time, and it is well objection The Halifax Herald calls for a thorough, fearless, inquests were framed things were somewhat differand immediate probe into the tauses of the tSellar- ent than they are to-day. For instance, in South ton disaster. The Record, I am sure, supports the Cape Breton the collieries are under the ownership call, but possibly not from the same motives, or for of one company. Should an accident occur at, say, the same reasons as your contemporary. The Record Dominion No. 1, and three jurymen were sworn who desires a thorough and public investigation not for worked at Dominion No. 2, that would be a complithe purpose of in setting punishment on some one who ance with the letter of the law, but not with what (Continued on page 12.)

AROUND THE COLLIERIES

An exchange places the Vale explosion as occurlater, in 1888.

disaster is placed at three hundred. The number of gas. On Wednesday morning a few men only went widows is given as sixty. That means that on an down the McGregor, but on Thursday the force had average there are four children to each family. The increased to sixty and the increase since has been

The heavy falls in the Allan Shaft are scarcely sufficient to justify the assertion made by some that the explosion was a most violent one. Owing to the heavy inclination of the seam, and the fact that the shafts are sunk in disturbed, indeed a better word might be distorted, strata, very little concussion or other disturbance is necessary to induce a fall. Nor should it be forgotten that the mine is affected by a G. M. formed one of the jury in an inquest relatheavy lateral as well as superincumbent pressure.

In a talk between several men the other day one declared that the snow which covered the earth was responsible in part for the late explosion. That can scarcely be, as the Drummond explosion occurred the like to be a listener. middle of May, the Foord Pit on a bright day in early November and the New Waterford in midsion in February. The months of the explosions ox must be well fed; and further, that an ox should were May, November, January, February and July. not be tantalized like the man in the fable, dying of This is proof that mine explosions are no respectors thest when his body was up to the neck in water. of months. Mid-summer or mid-winter matters little.

Some time in the eighties, after the Foord and Cage Pits were found to be, beyond doubt, on fire, the then General Manager, the late H. S. Poole, made an attempt to extinguish the fire in the latter mine by the manufacture of carbonic acid gas, which is one and a half times as heavy again ah air, and send-ing it down the plt through a bore hole. The plant was not an elaborate nor a large one. Too small to make a success of the experiment, in the writer's opinion. The gas was made by an admixture of lime or chalk, sulphuric acid and water. It was sent down the mine, of course, in the form of gas. After a time the attempt to extinguish the fire in this manner was abandoned. The plant for the manufacture of the carbonic acid gas was far too small for the work expected of it. There had been heavy falls to the west of the Cage Pit shaft, which probably admitted air; and then again there was open connection with the Foord Pit. Coal mine fires have been subdued by this gas, and if all efforts presently being tried to smother the fire, assumed to be in the Third seam, it might be well to try, on a fairly large scale, the employment of this heavier than air gas.

Messrs. T. J. Brown, Ma colm Beaton and ing in 1885. If we are not in error the Amalgama- Greenwell, and also three representative workmen tion took place in 1886, and the explosion two years examined the McGregor Mine and said in substance that there was no danger in working it. The men's representatives advised that the under seam should The number of dependents of victims of the late not be worked until all places had been freed from average may be said to be high. One who is interested in relief work put it thus, "This is a case of mended in advising the men to resume work, soon as possible, in order to prevent the public and the inpossible, in order to prevent the public and the industries generally from suffering from a shortage of

> Wm. Maxwell, General Manager of the Intercolonial Coal Co., is one of the jurymen on the inquest on the bodies of those who fell in the disaster. If the Record is not suffering from an unpardonable lapse of memory this is the first occasion on which ing to deaths in the mine in Nova Scotia. Simon Lott, former superintendent of the Allan Mine, is also a member. It is possible there may be interesting discussion after the jury has retired to consider the verdict. There is at least one outsider who would

On high authority it is told us to "Muzzle not the summer. There may have been a covering of snow ox that treadeth out the corn." That carries the over the earth at the time of the Springhill explos double meaning that if good work is to be done the So far so good. We are not told, on any known authority, what should be done to the ox who advises other oxen to cease treading at a time when food and fuel are scarce, to cease treading on two days each week, on occasions. Would it be not an unwise but a commendable act to have this ox muz-

> In last issue the Record commended the action of the officials of the A. M. W. in setting out on a propaganda whose object was to advise the colliery workers to lose as little time as possible, and to work with more regularity on the Mondays succeed-ing pay days. Again the Record commends the offiicials in urging the men not to cause the pits to be idle on occasions of funerals. The Record has ever bewailed this action as not an excellent way to display sympathy. The experience of the writer constrains him to say that better respect would be paid to a dead comrade by working, then by idling ninetenths of a day on which a funeral is held. Practical respect could well be made by working and giving the day's wage to dependents of the deceased, when in need. This would be surely better than remaining idle and giving no substantial aid. Old customs, or may it better be said old superstitions, die hard.

AROUND THE COLLIERIES.

The Record's estimable friend, the G. S. of the A. M. W.—understudy of the notorious Jas, Watters north and west of the "Car Barns" was known as In a clegant specified date, ease there is since to 101-by was three shiftings per chaldron on every chal-low the direct consequences. In nine days from, say, dron_over 1,400 sold, a fairly stiff royalty con-the 20tth January he made solemn asservation that if pared with that now charged by the Government. The quantity of coal mined from 1st January, 1818 bend the knee his patented formula "two idle days to 1st January, 1819 was 3,030 chaldrons. a week for all miners," would certainly be acted upon. The time is up long ago, and as yet everything goes on as usual.

We notice that the daylight saving propostion that was approved by the Senate early in the year, but was permitted to slumber in a House committee, is again being discussed. Setting the clock forward is a very definite and important move in the direction of fuel economy, and if there is no radical change in the situation by the time next May rolls around it might well be arranged for. In face, it might be well to so arrange in any event, in view

four great explosions in Nova Scotia, the newspapers each other. were not at one. And it must be confessed that it is not an easy matter to specify exactly the numbers. For instance in the official Report of the Depart- killed. There were probably two fires, or accidents, ing been killed in the Drummond explosion, while the records in the company's office show the number to be one less. Again in the case of the Foord Pit explosion the official report gives the number lost very little damaged, except at the point of the ex-The explosion the orient report gives the number lost as fifty-two and only accounts for fifty-one by names. The writer in the list compiled by him on the day of the explosion has the figures 52, and that he thinks is correct. Again in the case of Springhill the figures 52. as correct. Again in the case of Springhill the figures officially given are 125. Another account puts feet that in 1838 three men were killed. This is postupently quoted. The numbers in the various explosions the Record places as follows: Drummond, 59; Foord Pit, 52; Springhill, 122; New Waterford, 65 and Allan Shaft, 86.

Mr. Fear, 1, the Principal of the School for the Deaf, is very much elated over the generous offer of was a short-lived mine, as in 1871 the pit fired and the staff of Acadia College to supply all the accom- was finally abandoned. This must have been a secondary of the staff of Acadia College to supply all the accommodations and appliances necessary for the pur- ond fire, as mention is made of a fire in this pit in pose of effectively carrying on the work of the school 1869. until the buildings in Halifax injured by the disaster, are put in suitable repair. Acadia College is certainly to be commended on the extended generosity and timeliness of this gift.

-would have his predictions received with more the Old Mines, and it was entitled to be called by confidence were his utterances not marked by great that name. On the first of January, 1818 two mines proclamation that certain things must be done with- 21 years, at a rental of £370.0.0 currency. The royal-

In 1818, and 1819 the coal sold in Pietou County was a trifle over 9,000 tons. In 1827 the sales were under 4,000 tons. From 1828 to 1837 there was a remarkably steady increase in shipment. 6,590 tons in 1828 they rose to 46,000 tons in 1837. From 24,000 odd tons in 1835 there was a phenomenal jump to 46,000 tons in 1836. A similar quantity was raised in 1837. These were boom years.

In 1828 what were known as the "store" pits were "bottomed."

of the many advantages appertaining to the greater pits—they were in the vicinity of the Company's old availability of daylight under the proposition plan office on Bridge Street—were on fire. A number of horses were burned. The evidence at the investigation which followed went to show that the fires were In giving the number of deaths that followed the at the same hour in two parts of the pit distant from

in that year, an explosion as well as a fire, as we find that in September, 1836, there was an explosion in the Store Pit whereby two men and two boys were killed and six persons severely burned. The pit was plosion. Perhaps there is a mistake in the year, or some confusion of the names of the pits. It is possible that in one case "Bye" Pit should have been used. In some old notes there is a gloss to the effect that in 1838 three men were killed. This is pos-

In 1872 the General Mining Association bade the Albion Mines and Picton County good-bye. In that year they, sold out to the Halifax Company. The G. M. A. spent far more many in the County than become known that men were coming out by the they dug out of it, and yet some glibly talk of Cage pit drift, and relatives, friends, and the curprincely fortunes of coal operators.

exploded.

In the case of the Drummond explosion, fire preceded and was responsible for the disaster. In the case of the Foord Pit the explosion preceded and was the cause of the loss by fire of the mine.

Dimmend explosion is that the death roll would rescue work was to be attempted. Any work to be have been only 28 or 29 had no attempts been more at rescue. There were no fewer than thirty or thirty-one of those who volunteered in rescue work services of the Grand Secretary of the P. W. A., who killed. Possibly such a thing has never happened at the time was at a discount as recruiting officer. in the case of any great colliery explosion, and is The needed men were readily secured. abundant proof of the willingness of miners to risk their lives in attempts to save the lives of their comrades. The Drummond furnishes the one instance in Nova Scotia where a General Manager was killed while attempting to prevent a pit going on fire, or exploding. His name was Dunn.

The old Foord Pit can claim to have had victims by flood as well as by fire, an unenviable reputation in this respect. By an inrush of water from old workings driven into, due to defective plans, six lives Fraser, whose widow lives in the south end.

Cage Pit. The way of escape for many who worked in the former was the only way fire could travel from the one to the other. The connecting tunnel was at times called the "stone drift." If it really was a way hewn through rock, then suction must hae played a big part. The Foord Pit fires could not be attracted to or by any gas in the Cage Pit, while anx gas there would be attracted to them.

There were many more men in the Foord Pit when it exploded in 1880 than in the Allan Shaft on the what is their purpose? 23rd inst., and, yet, the fatalities were thirty-five fewer. This was due to the fact that there was way of egress, by the tunnel, connecting the Foord He must sit down on the President of the A. M. W., Pit with the Cage Pit. Very many escaped that way by walking swiftly from the danger zone.

In 1880 no one after the explosion was brought out by way of the main shaft, and only one dead body was brought by the cage to the surface, that of John McGillivray. When brought to the surface a ruddy and healthlike glow was over his face, as if he had been walking smartly when he encountered the deadly after damp, and that was a probability. He was, it is assumed, hastening to his work, when caught by the fumes in the level. There was not a caught by the fumes in the level. There was not a with it a heavy hint that the mining staff are not smudge of black or a trace of burn, on his face, which quite "up to stuff," notwithstanding the many comlooked, indeed, as if it had been freshly washed.

around. This was due, first, to the fact that it had if a certain thing was brought about there would be

ious had rushed thither, and, secondly, to the announcement made by Joseph Hudson, after coming In 1877 the Cage and the Foord Pits were con- to the surface with the dead body, that it was futile nected. It was by means of this connection that to make attempt at rescue by way of the shaft, as many lives were saved when in 1880 the Foord Pit the body was found not far distant from the bottom. giving proof that the mine was full of the deathdealing monoxide.

As a rule, at every explosion, where there is the necessity, volunteers to assist in rescue work come forward freely and in greater numbers than can be accepted. After the Foord Pit disaster no volun-A most remarkable thing in connection with the teering took place for the simple reason that no done was on the surface, and that made no appeal to them. The management was forced to enlist the

RUBS-(Continued from page 9.)

was originally intended. It was intended that the three jurymen should be drawn from a colliery oper ated by a different company. That was then possible, as in Cape Breton South there were a balf a dozen companies and three or more in Pictou; it is not possible to-day. This is a further reason why there should be changes in the law in reference to were lost, among them Underground, Manager inquests in mining districts. The objects of an inquest should be restricted to: Was the death caused by accident, or was it a case of murder? After that The loss of the Foord entailed also the loss of the there should be an investigation under government It would not be necessary at this investigation to have more than six persons all versed in matters relating to coal mining. As a rule, coroners' juries on inquests following mining accidents have not been a success, as in a majority of instances they have not in their findings adduced facts, or made recommendations that could be called really helpful. The true purpose of all inquests, after mining accidents, is to bring out faults, and suggest improvements, else

Friend F. W. Gray will have to look to his laurels. who lately declared in Ottawa that the production of the Dominion Coal Co., presumably, could be increased 1,500 to 2,000 tons daily. Mr. Gray has in the press expressed the opinion that the output of coal this year will be 400,000 tons less than last year. Assuming that the pits work only 270 days, and the output is increased by the president's lowest figures, then the expected, or predicted, decrease is wholly wiped out, and 5,000 tons to spare. The president's assertion is that a better system of haulage in the mines would accomplish the increase. This carries pliments showered upon it by the Record. There is just a suspicion that the president is not speaking There were no "scenes" of any kind at the shaft as one with authority. A prediction was made a mouth in 1880. In fact there were few persons long while ago, by a colleague of the president, that a very marked increase in output. Well, the thing on which to base a calculation of the amount of coal

The Nova Scotia Compensation Act, so far as it applies to coal mining, to be really effective must be radically amended. What is the main object of the act? To provide against want or destitution of the dependents of bread winners who have lost their liwes through accidents. The aid provided by the act should be immediate, and not available only after a considerable lapse of time. The aid should be available as soon as the need arises, or the necessity demands. A main object of the act was to duly provide for dependents without the necessity of an peals to the charitable. The act fails lamentably in this particularly. Immediately after the New Waterford explosion, and also that in Stellarton, appeals had to be made for assistance. Why could not the had to be made for assistance. Why could not the fown councils or other authorities in certain districts to be crearphed be empowered to render aid immediately in all necessitious instances, the money so expended by the councils to be afterwards refundable to the councils of the councils to be afterwards refundable to the council of the councils of the councils to be afterwards refundable to the council of t ed by the Compensation Board? Such a plan would render unnecessary all charitable appeals, which must be hateful to dependents of ordinary spirit, a spirit commendable and which should be en-

NOVA SCOTIA'S COAL AREAS.

The Province of Nova Scotia has an area of 21,428 square miles, and had a population, in 1911, of 492,338 or about 23 persons to the square miles. It juts from the east coast of North America, easterly, and lies diagonally between latitudes 43 and 47 north. It is about 320 miles long by about 100 noles wide, and is a continuation of the Appalachian Mountain range, which extends along the east coast of the continent, and which range is now incorrectly called the Allegheny. Appalachian is the Spanish name given to these mountains by De Soto, after the Indians of that name. The Province is part of the continent called by Dawson the "Acadian Region."

Nova Scotia is, undoubtedly, rich in coal. The estimated number of tons in situ in 1914 was 8,730,000,000, distributed as follows:-

Cape Breton County 5,664,268,000 Pictou 1,324,076,000
Clmberland 1,324,076,000
Victoria 845,544,000
Inverness 14,112,000

In addition to this, which many hold to be a very conservative estimate - there are others who are satisfied to place the figures at a thousand million tons less—there are the great undersea seams, which have ben proved to be valuable for at least two miles oceanward, and there is no reason to think other than that valuable seams lie for many miles to the eastward under the sea.

Previous to the year 1763 coal was not reserved.

After that, between the year 1763 and 1767, it was reserved, except in a few cases. All coal is now reserved.

At Glengarry, in Cape Breton County, a seam of

In Antigonish, Richmond and Colchester Counties, a number of leases have been taken for coal lands, and exploratory work is now being carried on in the first named but, as at Glengarry, the da are not sufficient to assist in a calculation of the quantity of coal that may be contained in these

Up to January, 1915, there were 1,143 square miles of coal area leased in the Province, 50 square miles of which had been mined in.

The valuable coal seams lie in the Middle Carboniferous system, in a series of basinlike formations. The coal basins formed along the east coast of Cape Breton contain some valuable seams of coal ranging in thickness from two to nine feet. This section is known as the Sydney Coal Field. The strata throughout are almost free from faults or disturbances, which renders the veins regular and persistent. The seams have an easy dip seaward, of about one foot in ten or eleven feet, except the Victoria seam at Low Point, which dips, at a much greater angle. This coal field extends 35 miles along the coast from Big Bras d'Or Gut to the head of Cow Bay, and comprises a land area of 200 square miles; it reaches inland from five to six miles. The coal lies in four basins, known as the Cow Bay, Glace Bay, Lingan and Bras d'Or basins. There are excellent exposures of the coals of this district in the banks of the several bays on the eastern coast of Cape Breton from Bras d'Or to Mira.

This coal field produces about four-fifths of the total output of the Province. The whole field is underlaid by the Millstone Grit to a thickness of 1,800 feet. The measures over the coals are strong, rendering them safe to work at shallow depths.

On the western side of Cape Breton Island lies the Inverness coal field. It extends about 50 miles north from Port Hood to Chimney Corner. Some valuable seams have been opened in this district. Like the Sydney coal field, it is divided into four basins; the Port Hood, Manous Inverness and Chim-

In the early 70's a mine was opened at Chimney Corner. A number of workmen's houses were built and a good start was made to develop the seams in that region; but in 1873 a fire occurred that burnt the bankhead and destroyed the machinery and since that time nothing, except a little prospecting, has been done in that section of the Inverness coal

A bore-hole put down at St. Rose, near Chimney Corner, in 1904, found a seam of bright coal four eet thick, at 89 feet, and a seam of eight feet at 285 feet. These coals are of good quality and the facilities for mining them are as good as anywhere in the Province. With railway connection to Bras d'Or lake, excellent shipping sites can be obtained.

The Port Hood and Richmond Coal and Railway Co.'s mine at Port Hood, and the Mabou and Gulf Coal Co.'s mine at Mabou, have been flooded for these last seven or eight years, and now the only mine in operation in the Inverness field is the Invercoal, four feet thick has, it is declared, been disco. This mine produced 278,821 tons in the fiscal covered, but the development has not been sufficient year ended September 30th, 1916. There are a ness mine, owned by the Inverness Railway and Coal

number of large and undeveloped coal seams in the flooded districts that are awaiting courage and capital only in order to become producers. It is not possible that these splendid areas will long go beg-

ging for somebody to take hold.

The Pictou coal field has an area of about 35 square miles and contains some of the thickest seams in the world. This district has been producing for nearly 100 years. Like the other coals of the Province, the principal beds lie in the Middle Carboniferous series. East of New Glasgow, and toward Little Harbor, the Upper Carboniferous comes in, New Campbellton but the seams of coal thus far discovered in this section are of minor importance.

In the Pictou coal field proper, the strata are much faulted and the structure is intricate. Disturbances f much magnitude have been numerous, and the productive measures appear to be entirely encircled by them. In no other part of the Province have the geologists, great and small, had occasion to so often revise their knowledge concerning the positions and locations of the coal seams, and in no other part of the continent have they been so often in error. The Great McCulloch Fault that was as real to Pictou coal men as was the old Foord Pit pump-beam, has disappeared, and in fact some authorities are bold enough to tell us that it never has existed. Seams of coal that were surely running in a certain direction, have been discovered going in an altogether different direction. Recent borings have brought very many new and undreamt of seams, of coal to light. The recent opening of a coal seam near Thorburn by the Greenwood Coal Co. has shown that our geologists were in error even in that section of the coal field. All these developments have so changed the opinions of men interested in coal mines in Pictou County that it appears to be in order now for some person to guess anew the geological mysteries in the Pictou coal field.

In Cumberland County lie coal beds from which the Joggins and the Springhill mines have won mil-lions of tons and in which millions of tons remain. The seams in the Joggins area occur on one side of a specimal basin of carboniferous measures, which toward the center of the basin is overlapped by the Permian beds. In the western part of this district the seams are thin, except the Joggins, which is about 5 feet thick. The measures in this section dip south-west. In the strata exposed along the shore of Chignecto Bay there are more than 70 coal seams shown. Several of these are about 51/2 feet thick. One is 91/2 feet, but has shale parting aggregating

21/2 feet.

In the Springhill basin which lies about 15 miles east of the Joggins basin, the structure is not so simple, and the strata dip at about 30 degrees. There are a number of seams in this basin some of which are 10 feet thick and have been producing regularly

The following seams of coal have been mined:

Cape Breton County.

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eet 5	inchés	"
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Inverness County. Inverness Port Hood 0 Mabou Chimney Corner

Pictou County.

Foord			
Cage		 13	27 27
Third Seam			
Stellar do. (coa	al oil)	 4	" "
McGregor		 14	27 17
Acadia		 15	1) 11
Scott		 15	99 . 91
Nos. 4 and 5 .		 8 to 12	. 22 21
Wale		 3½ to 7	" "
McBean		 6	11 1
Marsh		 4	"

Cumberland County.

Springhill	No.	2				ij						g	8 "	"
Springhill	No.	3		 À	*	·		4	t	0 8	feet	3	inches	"
Joggins .						ò					* **	5	11	55
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Kimberley	13			į,	V	ü								1

During the year ending September, 1916, 65,000,-000 bushels of grain were used in the manufacture of liquor. If, says Mr. W. Straker, the secretary of the Northumberland Miners' Association, the Goverament had stopped this and thrown the grain on the food market, the extraordinary rise in bread prices need not have occurred.

Mr. MacPherson, in replying to a toast proposed by Mr. A. Fisher, High Commissioner for Australia. on behalf of the Imperial Forces, said our sailors had always sailed with clean hands, and if there was to be a clearing from the seas it must be a clearing of the barbarous and treacherous foes who had polluted the ocean with the worst form of crime.

General Pershing, of the United States Army, who is himself a strict teetotaler, says: "If I win no other victory, I mean to win a moral victory for our soldiers."

Professor Bell, the inventor of the telephone, in the course of an address at Liverpool, predicted the day when the flying machine would attain such speed that wings might be unnecessary.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

ments, and ever-threatening warfare will be the for feeding seventeen dogs daily with bread and destiny of future generations. The idea of a League milk. A boy servant stated that in addition to this of Nations is acclaimed generally by all peoples who would banish war; but we must be careful not to be biscuits and horseflesh. misled by specious phrases, for such are calculated to be as illusory as chasing the end of a rainbow. Facing actualties, we must see that a triumph for the Allied peoples is an essential prelude to the Starve) week, Sir Arthur Yapp, in reply to a ques-

in the American nation, cause has been well tested and shown to be right ing joined during Christmas week.

The shortage of the tonnage may compel drastic reduction in consumption, but at least one advant-

and make the nation more self-contained.

House, Lord Robert Ceeil, M. P., said that the recognition of Zionism was proparly the greatest are site that the centrel should be brought to an end as yet taken towards one of the rights for which we the earliest possible moment, and he did not think it were fighting—the right for all nations to govern would take a very long time before industry could themselves and work out their own destiny. Mr. H. re-establish itself and go on unfettered. Government for having made it possible for them to say-as they had always said on Passover night not as a pious and distant wish, but as a near and confident hope "This year in Jerusalem."

In a prohibition plebiscite at Paisley 19,837 papers were issued. Of these 444 were spoiled, 11,182 votes were east for prohibition during the war and demobilisation, 2,508 for State purchase, and 1,782 for no a man charged with drunkenness, said, "His head. change. A plebiscite taken at Lesmahagow resulted in 1,076 votes for prohibition during the war and demobilisation and 32 against. Women gave 586 votes for and nine against, and men 490 for and 23

In Edinburgh and Glasgow recently there has been a marked diminution of drunkenness among women. In Edinburgh, in 1914, 1,961 women were arrested for drunkenness; in 1915, 1,721; in 1916, 1.225. The figures for 1917 are expected to be still lower. In Glasgow the figures for arrests for drunker enness fell from 16.8 per 1,000 in 1913, to 10.7 in 1916. The total figures for that year were 11,735 of which only 3,484 represented women.

If one attempts to trifle with the British food restrictions he does so at his peril. Here are a few of Mr. G. H. Roberts, British Minister of Labor, in the penalties enacted in one city in January. Brewan interview last evening gave a message to the ery company fined \$125.00 for using more sugar than "I would like at this moment to emphasise the a woman was fined three dollars and an advocate's need of national unity. All of us, not excluding the fees. A dairy company was mulcted over \$600.00 Government, are keenly desirous of an tarly peace, for selling butter at a price exceeding the maximum. But in order to attain a peace that will be satisfac. At Birmingham a butcher was fined \$250.00 for strengthened nation at its highest capacity. If we 36c. Another butcher was fined \$125.00 for overdon on the price should have been do not win now, conscription, burdensome arma. charge on mutton. A Welsa woman was fined £25 milk. A boy servant stated that in addition to this the dogs were given a daily supply of milk,

I wish to appeal to British workers to show faith she could not get anything she went without. For tion, stated that his wife did not stand in queues; if That great democracy a fortnight she had not been able to get any tea or struggled to avoid entry into the war. That America butter and in one or two weeks only just a little feeling that democratic government was in danger margarine.—The "S.O.S." week is in connection the world over, could no longer keep out of the war with the League of National Safety, which now numshould be proof to every democrat that the Allied bers over 3,000,000 members, more than 100,000 hav-

age will accrue from war experience, inasmuch as ment control of industry after the war might continge too long, and that a man might not be able to At a Jewish demonstration in the London Opera he liked and selling where he pleased, Mr. A. H. cognition of Zionism was probably the greatest step sire that the control should be brought to an end at

> Paraffin has been discovered in two water wells at Ramsay, in Huntingdonshire, and has been successfully used in ordinary oil amps and for run-

At Willesden a policeman, giving evidence against was fairly sober, but his legs were very drunk."

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LIFAX. N. S.



Synopsis of Coal Mines Regulations.

OAL 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-eneyears, renewal for a further term of 21 years et an annual rental of 81 an arcs. Not more than 2560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lesse 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 right-happlied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid of the merchantable output of the unite at the rate of five/effent per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworm returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mines and pay the royalty threem. If the coal mining rights are not being of stack, such returns should be furnished at least once a year. The lease will include the coal mining rights only, restinged by Chap. 27 of 4.5 George V. assented to 12th June, 1013.

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.

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The Mines Branch maintains the following laboratories in which investigations are made with a view to assisting in the developing of the general mining in-dustries 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.

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Geological Survey.

Recent Publications:

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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.

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