

Excursion to Minto Was a Most Enjoyable Affair

Representatives of the City and County Councils and Board of Trade the Guests of the Fredericton and Grand Lake Railway Company---Visited the Town of Minto and Inspected the Coal Mines---Great Development Taking Place in the Grand Lake District These Days.

A delegation from York County visited Minto yesterday as, the guests of the Fredericton and Grand Lake Railway Company, and spent an enjoyable day visiting the coal mines and other outstanding features of the town which now enjoys the distinction of being New Brunswick's greatest mining centre. The delegation included members of the Fredericton City Council and Board of Trade and the Warden and several Members of the York Municipal Council and others. They left here at 9.20 o'clock in the morning in a special car attached to the regular train. Although Minto is only thirty-one miles from Fredericton not more than two of the forty odd persons who made up the jovial party, had ever before visited the place and the great majority of them confessed that it was their first run over the Fredericton and Grand Lake Railway. It was therefore a case of breaking new ground and this made the trip all the more novel and enjoyable. All were agreeably surprised to find the road in such splendid physical condition. The train by which the party travelled was a heavy one, consisting of twenty-two cars, yet it moved along with wonderful smoothness and what stops it made were brief ones. South Minto, which is three miles from the main town, was reached at twelve o'clock and here the car in which the visitors travelled was cut off from the main train and attached to another locomotive which hauled it up and down the different spur lines to give the party an opportunity to do some sight seeing.

Extensive Operations.
There are seven mining companies

operating in the region of Minto which employ in the aggregate more than five hundred men. The great majority of the miners are foreigners, chiefly Belgians, Germans and Austrians, who occupy small cottages, provided for them by the mine owners. They work by the piece and earn from \$3 to \$7 per day. Coal for domestic use is supplied to them at the nominal rate of \$2 per month in winter and \$1 per month in summer, which means that to them the fuel problem is not a serious one.

Stripping for Coal.

The first mine inspected by the Fredericton visitors was that of the Rothwell Mining Company and what they saw proved decidedly interesting. The company in addition to its regular underground operations is now carrying on what is known as "surface stripping," being the first concern in Canada to mine coal by this method. The Baird & Howie Co., Ltd., of this city have the contract to get out the coal and seem to be making a thorough job of it. Their plant consists of a large and exceedingly powerful steam shovel by means of means of which some fifteen feet of solid earth and shrubs which cover a thirty inch coal seam, are removed. The shovel is equipped with an extra long arm and is able to clear a space over fifty feet wide without a shift. A crew of men with engine and hoisting gear follow the steam shovel and the coal is no sooner exposed than it is broken up and loaded upon cars. The Baird & Howie Co. are now taking out for the Rothwell Company from 100 to 150 tons of excellent run of mine coal a day from this one operation. The block on which they are working contains 6,000 tons and when that is finished they will remove their plant to another seam where they expect to take out 80,000 tons under contract. Messrs. G. Fred Baird and G. E. Howie, C. E.'s, are in charge of the work, and seem to be very much pleased with the substantial progress being

made. They are also pleased to know that at a time when there is very little doing in the way of railway building or in connection with public works, they are able to employ their plant for the benefit of the coal mining industry, the development of which means so much to the country at this time.

The manager of the Rothwell Company is Mr. Benton Evans, who has had a long experience in connection with the Grand Lake coal mining operations. He was very courteous in explaining for the edification of the visitors the modus operandi, and later in the day gave members of the party a run in his motor car. By "speeding up" the production of soft coal by the aid of modern labor saving machinery Mr. Evans is certainly rendering a notable service to the country in this time of threatened fuel famine.

The Largest Company.

After leaving the Rothwell mine the train was switched on to another spur and the party were given an opportunity to witness the operations being carried on by the Minto Coal Company. This concern is easily the largest of the lot, having upwards of 300 miners in its employ. Its output of coal has greatly increased in the last two years, and it can easily find a market for all it can mine. One of the principal customers is the Canadian Pacific Railway which uses thousands of tons of Grand Lake coal annually on its locomotives. The visitors inspected several of the company's shafts and saw the miners descend into the bowels of the earth. Each had a small lighted lamp attached to his cap and almost every second man was smoking a pipe. They work about fifty feet below the surface and the coal which they mine is placed in boxes and hoisted to the surface by means of steam power.

To Try New Plan.

The Minto Coal company, which is the owner of very large coal areas have made arrangements to give the



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"The kitchen must help as well as the workshop and the trenches"
Mr. Lloyd George has said it!

What does he mean?

He means you must know and practice real thrift—make every dollar you spend on food serve your family and your country. Banish those things which are wasteful and substitute real foods. Lovers of tea and coffee must realize that these beverages are in no sense of the word food, but merely pleasant, slightly stimulating drinks, which, by the way, are soaring in price!

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It is a scientific fact that a cup of Cowan's Perfection Brand Cocoa contains more actual food value than a cup of beef extract, bouillon, or chicken soup.

Economies like Cowan's Cocoa render the diet more delightful, while saving money. And the saving effected in household expenses will enable you to help win the war another way—by Purchasing War Certificates!

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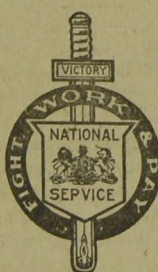
THE problem of meeting the enormous cost of this war is twofold. Not only must Canada get the money—most of it, of course, as loans—but she must get as much of it as possible here in Canada.

We can carry the war-debt if the bulk of the interest goes to Canadians, and so is used again in the country's development. But it will be a serious matter for us if a large proportion of the interest has to be sent outside the Dominion.

For the sake of our own and our children's future this drain on our resources must be avoided! Canada's financial freedom can and must be maintained! An average saving of 15 cents a day, invested by each man, woman and child in Canada in War Savings Certificates, would enable us to carry the whole cost of the war. To approach this average, hard work, thrift, self-denial and sacrifice are required of every citizen.

For each \$21.50 you lend the Government now, you will receive \$25.00 in three years—or you can get your money back at any time. Certificates are issued in denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100, and may be purchased at any Bank or Money Order Post Office.

The National Service Board of Canada,
OTTAWA.



surface stripping method a trial. The Smith & Merrithew Company, Limited, which lately completed a contract on the Valley Railway have moved part of their plant to Minto and will begin raising coal in the course of a few days. They will use a large steam shovel and expect to raise from 100 to 200 tons of coal daily.

Visited the Town.

After concluding their inspection of the mines the train continued on to Minto where the visitors had dinner at the Hotel McMann, the principal hotel of the place. It is a three story wooden building and seems to do quite a rushing business although the Fredericton contingent during their sojourn there saw nothing of the proprietor nor did they run across anything in the form of a clerk. The dining room seats thirty people and that number was right on hand a moment after the gong sounded. A solitary waitress looked after the hungry guests and did it without much fuss. At the conclusion of the repast and when the guests had repaired to the verandah, some of them learned by way of a slant that the landlord, who is also the proprietor of the general store was busily engaged in the latter place dealing out soft drinks, groceries and dry goods.

While waiting for the train to depart on the trip homeward, some members of the party were treated to auto rides by Manager Henderson of the Minto Company and Manager Evans of the Rothwell Company. They were whirled around the block and the places of interest were pointed out to them. The town seemed to have a very quiet appearance, which was explained by the fact that the majority of the male inhabitants earn their living underground. "If you want to see a lively burg you should be here on pay day," said a citizen to The Mail representative. He went to say that the miners are paid off once a fortnight and usually liven things up a bit. "They all make good wages," he went on, "and they spend it freely."

POLISH GENERAL UNDER ARREST

Copenhagen, July 26. — General Piludski, organizer and former commander of the Polish legions, has been arrested by the German authorities while attempting to leave Poland on a false passport.

General Piludski had hitherto been hailed as a Polish patriot and the Polish legions held up as a symbol of the national government against Russia. Both the legions and their commander were assigned to prominent roles at the proclamation of the Polish kingdom. The Germans now discover that General Piludski is a republican conspirator with leanings toward Russia.

Residents of Minto are too busily engaged in mining to pay much attention to farming and gardening, consequently high prices for produce are the rule. Case eggs sell in the stores for forty cents a dozen and correspondingly high prices are asked for other kinds of provisions.

Has a Picture House.

Minto boasts a moving picture theatre, a barber shop, a pool room, a bowling alley and an ice cream parlor all under the management of Mr. E. H. Cady. Picture shows are put on four times a week and the hall which seats between two and three hundred persons is nearly always filled.

The town does not boast a water system but a good supply is obtained from bored and dug wells. The mines being located on a hill side have an excellent system of natural drainage, the surplus water being borne away by Newcastle Creek.

The Return Trip.

The train pulled out of Minto on the return trip at four o'clock and the run was made in about two hours. Before reaching Gibson Manager Sherwood was called into the car and heartily thanked by President Neill for the enjoyable day's outing and for the indefatigable manner in which he had labored to make it a success. President Neill assured him that each and every one had thoroughly enjoyed the trip and would not forget his great kindness. He concluded by proposing three cheers and a tiger for the manager, which were lustily given.

Manager Sherwood in returning his thanks said it had been a great pleasure to him to entertain the representative men of the city and county and he was glad to know that all had enjoyed themselves. He hoped that the trip would be repeated on some future occasion.

The excursion train was in charge of Conductor Robert Hickson, who, like Manager Sherwood, was indefatigable in looking after the interests of the guests. Conductor Hickson is deservedly popular with the patrons of the road.

It was exactly six o'clock when the train pulled into the C.P.R. depot.

Among those who made up the party were: F. B. Edgecombe, G. N. C. Hawkins, W. S. Thomas, G. A. Taylor, Graham Taylor, John J. Weddall, L. C. Macnutt, W. S. Hooper, Dr. C. C. Jones, J. H. Fleming, J. W. Biggs, Ivan McKnight, A. J. Ryan, Ald. D. J. Shea, Ald. R. W. McLellan, Ald. T. S. Wilkinson, R. H. Simonds, J. W. McKay, Walker Belyea, J. S. Neill, W. J. Scott, R. B. Vandine, C. W. Whelpley, Ald. Lemont, R. G. Lee, Warden A. B. Neill, Coun. D. E. Pickard, Coun. E. Allen, Coun. Alex. Brewer, Coun. Bliss Nason, Dr. O. E. Morehouse and wife, Mr. H. L. Bailey and wife, Capt. J. A. Read, Mr. Steele, Ald. Burnett, Ald. Baxter, Ald. Barker and A. Sherwood.

The first really authentic account of a man being raised in the air was in Paris, October 15, 1783, when Pilatre de Rozier was lifted 80 feet into the air by a balloon made by Stephen and Joseph Montgolfier, to whom belong the honor of having built the first successful, man-carrying, lighter-than-air vehicle.

Italian women of Philadelphia will be mobilized by the State Department of Labor and Industry to handle the berry crops of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Several New York office buildings employ women as elevator operators.



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