

cents per acre per annum for subsequent years in the lands situated in the districts north of the French and Mattawa rivers and Lake Nipissing, and 60 cents the first year and thereafter 15 cents per annum for land situated elsewhere. These leases are all renewable after the second term by further terms of 20 years.

Miners' licenses in territories which may be set apart as mining divisions are granted for one year on payment of \$10, renewable for another year on payment of a like fee. The holder of a license may stake out a claim of 15 chains square, or 22½ acres, or 20 chains square, 40 acres, and he can hold it as long as mining operations are carried on upon a scale of one man's labour for five months, or its equivalent if two or more men are employed during each calendar year. Where the licensee desires to procure a patent or lease of a claim he may do so by completing the working conditions at a rate of ten months of one man's labour on a claim of 22½ acres, or of 15 months on a claim of 40 acres. But he is required to procure a survey of the land and to pay in the purchase money or first year's rental.

The Legislature of Ontario created a Bureau of Mines in 1891. Mr. Archibald Blue was made director, and he has issued several valuable reports.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The Mining Laws of British Columbia provide, with respect to coal mining, that a prospector for coal or petroleum on leased Crown Lands in which the minerals are reserved, before obtaining a license, shall place a post at one angle of the land with his name and the initials of the angle, and shall post a notice of his application on the land and on the Government office of the district for 30 days, and shall advertise it in the British Columbia Gazette and some local newspaper for 30 days.

Security for damages must be given if the Crown Lands in question have been leased or are covered by a timber license.

After the expiration of the 30 days, and within two months from the application in the Gazette, an application in duplicate (with a plan and a fee of \$50 for each and every license) must be sent to the Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works for a prospecting license for not more than one year, when the Chief Commissioner may grant the license. Such lands must be in one rectangular block with sides running north, south, east and west, and of area not exceeding 640 acres.

The license shall cease at its expiration, and a new license may be granted to a new applicant.

On proving that he has *bona fide* explored for coal during the year he shall be entitled to an extension for a second year on payment of \$50, and a further extension for a third year may be granted. License holders of adjoining lands, not exceeding ten, may work in partnership, when they need not prospect separately, provided the Chief Commissioner is satisfied with the prospecting done on the land of one of them.

The licensee may use the timber and stone on the land for the pur-