

three months and renewable. The holder of such license may afterwards purchase the mine, paying the price mentioned.

Licenses for mining are of two kinds. Private lands' licenses, where the mining rights belong to the Crown, and public lands' licenses. These licenses are granted on payments of a fee of \$5, and an annual rental of \$1 per acre. Each license is granted for 200 acres or less, but not for more; is valid for one year and is renewable on the same terms as those on which it was originally granted. The Governor in Council may at any time require the payment of the royalty in lieu of fees for a mining license and the annual rental—such royalties, unless otherwise determined by letters patent or other title from the Crown, being fixed at a rate not to exceed three per cent of the value at the mine of the mineral extracted, after deducting the cost of mining it.

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 thirty days, and shall advertise it in the *British Columbia Gazette* and some local newspaper for thirty 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 thirty 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 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 purpose of buildings on the land. Dispute as to the right of title shall be decided in the county court. No transfer for a prospecting license may be made without written notice to the chief commissioner of lands and works.

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may grant to a prospecting licensee a lease for five years at a rent of ten cents on proof that he has discovered