

The Smith-Kenmare mine works the seam where it lies nearly at lake level. If this seam is as continuous to the east and to the west as it is from north to south, it should be possible to reach its level on the prairie by a shaft at a depth of from eighty to 125 feet. Mining is, in general, carried on by the room and pillar method. Part of the timbering is dispensed with by using the upper edge of the lignite seam as a support for the cross pieces in the entries. In each of the mines ventilation is secured by means of an air shaft from the surface above the mine to one of the entries. Fires are kept burning under these shafts when necessary to secure circulation. The Soo road has a side track for the use of all the mines in the district except one, which was but recently opened.

Kenmare Hard Coal Company, Township 160, Range 88, Section 32.—This company, under the management of Mr. B. B. Tasker, operates a mine situated at the mouth of the Tasker coulee on the southwest corner of the second lake. A new electric plant for lighting the mine, and for running drills and undercut machines, with which the mine is to be equipped, will be completed during the summer. It is expected that the output during the winter months will reach 250 tons a day. From twenty-five to fifty men are employed, a part of whose time during the summer season will be used in brick making in connection with the mining. For purposes of brick, the clay under the lignite is used.

There is an older mine in this coulee, located on the north side opposite the present entry, which was abandoned on account of slipping.

Analysis of dried lignite from the mine:	PER CENT
Volatile matter	35.89
Fixed carbon	51.06
Ash	13.05
Total	100.00

The amount of ash is probably too high to represent the average for the mine.