Special Strike Edition

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62 A

DISTRICT LEDGER

Vol 4 No 34 Monday, April 12th, 1909

THE RELIEF INQUIRY

Juggling of Figures Goes on at a Merry Pace--No Nearer Solution than Ever--High Finance a Mighty Problem

(Continued from Saturday's Ledger.)

Following the evidence given in the Ledger of last week in the Relief investigation case, when Taylor had McDiarmid on the stand:

The question of the accuracy of certain cash balances was being discussed and the item of $10 was on the carpet, it being shown that all parties had agreed to its being eliminated from the shortage.

McDiarmid accepted this explanation and agreed to its being taken off the amount which brought it to $900. That $900 according to your statement leaves $500 to be accounted for.

McDiarmid said it did.

Taylor said he would show McDiarmid that it was incorrect. The audit he made did not go far enough. Before he went any farther he wanted witness to agree with him in one sweeping assertion.

This statement was that the cash on page 17 is balanced with the exception of the one error of $900.

Reply that is so.

Counsel said the error was contained in these items on that page.

McDiarmid said that if the balance brought forward was correct it might be so.

Counsels had another lengthy legal argument.

Witness said if the cash on hand was correct then the shortage was in August, but if not correct then in September.

Counsel asked him to go over the bank book, the cash book and say which items were not deposited.

Witness, after checking: Two items on folio 8, $26.40, transportation Chief MacDougall, $25 transportation Pat Hughes. Folio 10 $10 Davey.

Counsel said with regard to that, this was the $10 item referred to which the bank gave us credit for. Folio 10, Lacust $38, Folio 14 Rosedale $50. Opposite this was see Folio 10. This is the $50 which it is claimed that Lockhart cross entered against himself.

Various other amounts were put down as not appearing, folio 14. Taylor then produced a statement made by Webb the day previous, made by him under oath, from the bank cash items book obtained from the bank and cash book now before them of amounts not appearing as separate items on cash book. McDiarmid said that he would not attempt to swear that they were the same items. Counsel said he would have to. It was made under oath but they were not going to fetch the bank books for him.

McDiarmid said Taylor was trying to make him a detective to find out who stole the money, but he was not a detective. He reported a shortage and that was all he had to do.

These items were gone into by counsel. Item $71.65 he said they found to be correct, and was on a side memo exhibit 13, and was added in as a part of the Bank of Hamilton draft. Can you say if a draft for $80.26 was in the deposit shown?

McDiarmid could not say.

The balance of $71.65 you will assume then si correct?

Witness said he would assume it was correct.

Counsel: Please put down items which you find in the cash book as separate items but which you cannot find in the deposit book as separate items, or if you wish I can check over certain items and you can say if there are any more.

McDiarmid said he would go over with counsel.

Taylor: On page 16 cash book you find $800.18 and put down everything for supplies. Page 14 $1, $2; page 10 $38, page 8 $25, $2 .40.

Counsel asked if there were any other items.

Witness: None so far as you have gone. The total of this was $892.58. Leave out $50 the Rosedale double entry and the $10 Davey cheque explained.

Counsel: Now do you find that $892.58 the total of items on cash book, not on deposit slips. Now separate items on deposit slips not found on cash book as separate items amount to $204.15. This outside of cash.

Counsel: It is fair to assume is it not that as these items appear as separate items in the deposit, and not found as separate items on cash book, that these consist of cheques cashed out of cash on hand.

McDiarmid: Yes, that would be fair.

Asked if it would be fair to deduct this from the total of $892.58 he replied it would be so if the balance is right.

Counsel: Assuming that $63.40 was all that Lockhart turned over, and with the $15.03 which Webb had on hand, Lockhart could have only taken from the items found up to and including page 17, and from the items found on page 20, the sum of $610?

Witness: Yes.

Taylor: If it be true from the checking which you made this morning on a sworn checking made by Webb, that I have shown you, being checked off deposit slips and cash book, up to and including lines in last question up to page 22, and if it be true that Webb received no cash from Lockhart except the $63.40 shown on the deposit slips of September 11th, and the $15.03 cash on hand, then Lockhart so far as the pages of the cash book is concerned, provided he handed over the cash book to Webb, could not have taken more than $610.

McDiarmid: Assuming the deposits of September 11th to be checked out correctly I should say that this is correct.

Taylor: Now this is mathematical, and admits of no contradiction.

Counsel: Now as a mathematical fact it is not true that Lockhart took $900.

Witness: Evidently not.

Counsel: It is not a mathetmatical fact that he took $870.08.

McDiarmid: Assuming amounts to be checked up correctly he could not have taken so much.

Taylor: We will go farther. If he passed over any cash to Webb, and if he passed over a greater amount than the $63.40 deposited and the $15.03 on hand, it must be reduced by that amount.

McDiarmid: No, I should not say that.

Taylor: You and I agree that the only amount stolen could not have been more than $610. Now I want you to go further. I want you to say that the $610 must be reduced by every dollar of cash that is not included in the deposit slip of September 11th and not included in the balance of $15.03.

McDiarmid: I cannot see how it could be.

(Continued to-morrow)

ALL QUIET

No new developments are reported in the strike in District 18. The officers of the Unions have the situation well in hand, and the lid is on tight as far as the Operators Association mines are concerned. Reports are being circulated that large stockholders of some of the idle mines are objecting to the tie up, as they claim business has been none too good in the last six months, and they are demanding the immediate operation of the mines in which their money is wrapped up, pointing out that idle mines are not much when it comes to dividends.

Ledger readers will be informed daily of the progress the men are making in their fight for fair working conditions.

The C. P. R. and the Operators association are one and the same. The C. P. R. have granted a closed shop to their mechanics in Winnipeg. The miners want the same thing. Why are the C. P. R. not willing to grant the same conditions here?

We shall see what we shall see. Watch for the Daily Ledger and know for yourself without having to depend on street gossip information. We are on the inside and will publish only absolutely reliable information.

Scared of His Life

ST. PETERSBURG, April 10—Threatened by assassins in his own palace at Teheran and by rebellious Tanistani tribesmen who may sack the cities along the Persian gulf at any moment, the Shah of Persia is in a state of abject terror to-day.

A report to-day says that a British cruiser is anchored off Bushire, ready to protect European residents from the natives.

This has greatly complicated the situation as the Shah has already requested the Russian government to send troops to occpy Teheran and protect him from assassins whose plots have recently been discovered by police.

As a result a clash between England and Russia, each of whom jealously watches the moves of the other in Persia, seems imminent.

The Shah's request for Russian military aid was received several days ago, but was taken under consideration as the Russian government had no desire to antagonize the British.

The action of the British to-day in assuming control of the shores of the Persian gulf will probably result in Russia at once sending soldiers to Teheran.

Marines Are On Strike

CHICAGO, April 12—Actual hostilities in the lake sailors strike started in South Chicago when efforts were made by vessel owners to start out a few boats brought out the fact that marine workers had been told not to ship on any vessels controlled by the Lake Carriers association.

The marine firemen's union recently held meetings all around the lake ports, and as a result no fireman can ship with any engineer who signs a contract.

The local union called out 35 firemen in South Chicago yesterday and reports indicate that other places are doing the same.

Several of the most powerful concerns are reported to be on the verge of withdrawing from the Lake Carriers association.

WATCHING FOR RESULT

Special Convention of Dist. 18 in Session To-day Important Matters Being Considered--Lewis' Representative Coming

The convention of district Eighteen U. M. W. of A. called by the officers for the purpose of considering the whole strike situation commenced this morning in the Miners hall.

Much interest centres in this gathering and the outcome is awaited with expectancy.

District President Sherman called the meeting to order. The first order of business was the seating of delegates and on behalf of the Scale committee, Messrs. Clem Stubbs and Chas. Garner reported the following delegates as eligible to be seated at the conference:

Bankhead, No. 29, W. Fisher.
Bellevue, 431, C. Stubbs.
Canmore, 1387, H. Fox.
Coleman, 2633, W. Graham.
Fernie, 2314, T. Addison
Fernie 2314, T. Biggs.
Frank, 1263, W. Wrigley.
Hillcrest, 1058, J. O. Jones.
Hosmer, 2497, T. Chambers.
Lethbridge, 574, J. Larson.
Lille, 1233 F. C. Gessler.
Michel, 1234 C. Garner
Michel, F. France
Maple Leaf 2829, J. Coghill.
Royal Collieries, Lethbridge 2589, W. White.
Taber 1959, Hopkin Evans.
Taber 102, D. L. Miller.
Passburg, 2352, S. Dunn.
Corbin, 2877, W. Ryan.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sherman presented the following report on the situation in District 18, setting forth clearly the facts leading to the present stoppage of work.

To the delegates assembled in Special Convention; Negotiations looking to a renewal of agreements.

The Scale committee appointed at the last annual district convention at Lethbridge, met the scale committee of the Western Coal Operators association at Macleod, Alta., on March 2nd 1909. We found that the operators were not ready with any proposal for a new agreement. Our side presented a set of proposals for formulating a new agreement covering general provisions. The operators then took the stand that under no conditions would they agree to anything that would increase the cost of producing coal, our side taking the stand that under no conditions would we agree to any reduction in wages, but would prefer a stoppage of work to a reduction. I saw that there was a little friction among the operators themselves, so advised our side to adjourn for two weeks, which was done and the district officers visited the various locals to consult with them.

In the meantime I was laid up sick for one week. I managed, however, to reach Macleod in time for the second meeting of the Joint Scale committee. Again I had to go to bed, Vice-President Galvin taking charge of affairs.

I left Macleod for home on the understanding that I should be kept informed of the proceedings. On March 21st Vice president Galvin came to my home at Taber and informed me that the Operators association had split, the Canada West Company at Taber, and the Crows Nest Pass Coal Company of Fernie, Morrisey and Michel, and the Maple Leaf company of Bellevue, Alta., had broken away from the operators.

I instructed him to go back to Macleod and break off negotiations with the operators association until such time as we would negotiate agreements with the independent companies, who employed the majority of the members of our union in District No. 18. He left me, promising me in the presence of witnesses that he would keep me fully informed of any further developments, and that before any proposal was voted on by our men my advise would be sought.

This Vice-President Galvin failed to do, and I was entirely in the dark as to the situation of affairs until March 27th, when I saw in the press that an agreement had been arrived at and was being voted on by our local unions.

Although not fully recovered I left Taber and came to Fernie on Monday March 29, and saw Galvin and asked him what was the meaning of it all. I got the proposed agreement between the Crows Nest Pass Coal Company and our union first and having carefully noted its contents, told Galvin that I would not sign same, pointing out that it was unfair in some vital particulars, and was practically an open shop agreement.

I immediately arranged to take a committee and interview Messrs Hurd and Simister upon the matter. In the meantime Mr. Stockett, the president of the Western Coal Operators Association came down from Hosmer to see Vice-President Galvin for the purpose of getting the agreement signed. I took the matter out of Galvins hands and informed Stockett that under no circumstances would that agreement be signed in its present form, as it had neither a beginning nor an ending and was distinctly a non-union document.

Mr. Stockett then stated that it would be necessary to call a meeting of his association asking at the same time that our committee go to Macleod at the same time for the purpose of further discussing the situation. I informed him that if we came to an agreement it would be necessary to have our solicitors preesnt to draw up the document according to the law of Alberta.

In the meantime I had given Stockett a copy of the agreement arrived at and signed at Fernie on March 30, 1909 telling him that we required a similar agreement at Macleod.

We met at Macleod on March 31st, and proceeded to the hall. Finally Vice-President Galvin proposed that we appoint a chairman and get down to business. Mr. Stockett objected to this and stated that this was not necessary, as we had met to sign the ducument placed before our men and nothing else would do, absolutely refusing to discuss any preamble or anything else.

In reply I told the operators that as they represented a minority of our members and as hitherto they had always desired to follow the lead of the Crows Nest Pass Coal company, we expected them to give us at least equal terms.

We then withdrew and the District Executive board decided to call a discontinuance of operations pending a settlement.

I left Macleod and proceeded to Frank and together with Secretary-Treasurer Carter and the local officers we concluded a very satisfactory agreement with the Canadian American Coal and Coke company along the lines of the one at Fernie. I then opened negotiations with the Hillcrest Coal and Coke Company and the Wes-

(Continued on page 8.)

The District Ledger

$1.00 a year in advance. Address all communications to the "Manager" District Ledger, Fernie B. C. Rates for advertising on application.

We believe, through careful enquiry, that all the advertisements in this paper are signed by trustworthy persons, and to prove our faith by words, we will make good to actual subscribers any loss incurred by trusting advertisements that prove to be swindles; but we do not attempt to adjust trifling disputes between subscribers and honorable business men who advertise, nor pay the debts of honest bankrupts.

This offer holds good for one month after the transaction causing the complaint; that is we must have notice within that time. In all cases in writing to advertisers say "I saw it in The Ledger."

W. S. STANLEY,
Phone 48; Residence 9 Manager

UNION LABEL — TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL FERNIE B.C.

THE STRIKE—THE CONFERENCE

Acting in an eminently fair and frank manner the officers of District 18 called a convention of all local unions in District 18, which is being held in Fernie to-day.

A goodly representation of delegates are in attendance and the whole situation will be thoroughly gone over, and the forces of the men concentrated and united for the struggle.

The message of President Sherman to the men, which is given in full elsewhere, places his position in a new light to many who heretofore could not quite understand his actions and his reason for ordering the cessation of work. A perusal of his statement at once convinces the reader that he has taken the only course possible under the circumstances, and the manner in which the men are backing him up is in itself a glowing tribute to their confidence in their leader.

One of the outstanding features of the whole survey is the questionable action of International President Lewis, who by his action in telegraphing to the Operators association, promising a signed up agreement over the heads of the officials of District 18, seriously jeopardized the chances of success at the very outset of the fight. It has been made perfectly clear to him that District 18 and the Canadian miners will not be dictated to, or snubbed in any such manner. The fact that he gave credence to the operators side of the case without first obtaining an explanation from President Sherman cannot be overlooked, and no doubt more will be heard on this point later.

President Sherman has made it perfectly clear to the miners and to the world in general, if needs be, that he is holding nothing back, that his conduct and actions are fully stated, and he has positively shown that he has acted not in the underhand way that many sections of the western press have tried to represent, but in a frank, straightforward manner, having an eye single at all times to the best interests of the Canadian miners.

Meanwhile the hum of industry is heard in the camps where the independent companies are operating, and they are prospering as never before, the demand for coal being greatly in excess of their power to supply. The feeling between the men in the camps around here, and the companies operating same, was never better, and the beneficial results of a severance of connections with the mildewed Operators combine are becoming more and more apparent every day.

The first word of dissention has yet to be heard from the men out on strike in any of the camps. Everywhere the organizations seems complete and perfect; in all centres the men are conducting themselves in a dignified but determined manner, befitting to workers who believe in the dignity of labor, and the still greater dignity of quitting under unfair conditions.

With this issue we start a daily bulletin of 'Strike Business," which will be issued as long as the strike lasts. There will, of course, be other reading matter in it regarding local affairs, telegraphic news, etc., but the main object is to acquaint the men of the District with the true state of affairs, as it is hard to tell what outside reports to believe. These daily bulletins will be sold by the newsboys and will also be mailed to all regular subscribers. If you are not already a subscriber to The Ledger we invite your name and more especially your dollar. The District Ledger is the best weekly newspaper published in Canada. We say this without any fear of contradiction as we have seen no paper yet that contains the amount of news and is so creditably printed as The Ledger.

Get on the Voters list. The list is being revised. Now is your opportunity to be in a position to control your destiny—by the use of the ballot box.

The anti-Japanese and Chinese talk is all very well, but who starts them—the capitalist. Now think hard, which is better, to have the Chinks and Japs controlled by the unions or have them scab when you strike for better conditions?

The police authorities are hot foot after those citizens who persist in making a cess pool out of their back yards, and are insisting that the same be cleaned before an epidemic breaks out. Go to it coppers, and more power to you. A dirty back yard is neither desirable nor necessary.

CAN THE PEOPLE MANAGE THE INDUSTRIES?

Did you say that the nation can't run these industries for itself successfully? Well if the nation can manage a state university, it can surely run a packing house.

If it can feed a fighting arm it can run a hotel.

If it can build bridges it can build factories.

If it can irrigate land it can sell groceries.

If it can sell postage stamps it can sell coal.

If it can manage a navy it can manage telegraphs, telephones, express companies and railroads.

If it can make cannons it can make stoves.

If it can manage experimental farms at the agricultural colleges it can manage farming.

If it can pave the streets it can also make the materials with which to pave the streets.

If the people can run the public schools they can run factories or any other public utility.

CIGARETTE CAUSES FIRE

FORT WORTH, Tex. April 5— To boys and a carelessly thrown cigarette stump is generally credited the fire yesterday which destroyed property in South Fort Worth, valued at $2,000,000, caused the death of J. J. Newton, a bank employee, the serious injury of six persons, rendered three hundred families homeless and caused the temporary idleness of several hundred workmen empolyed in the manufacturing plants and businesses burned.

The burned area is under guard of the state troops to prevent looting and the entire fire department is still engaged in extinguihsing the burning embers which, with the high wind are still burning.

A mass meeting was held today and relief committees were named As the burned residence quarter was populated largely by those in comfortable circumstances little monetary relief will be needed.

When you hear a man sneering at the local paper because it is not as big, cheap and newsy as the city papers, you can safely bet that he does not squander any of his wealth in assisting to make it better, and that generally the paper has done more for him than he has for it. The man who cannot see the benefits arising from a local newspaper is about as much value to a town as a delinquent tax list.

A big Yorkshireman had come all the way to London to see the British museum.

Unfortunately it was a day when the Museum was closed. The indignant Yorkshireman refused to take no for an answer from the keeper at the gate of the place.

"But aint it public property?" he demanded.

"Yes," admitted the policeman, 'but one of the mummies died on Tuesday and do you begrudge us one day to bury him in?"

"Oh excuse me," said the Yorkshireman in a hushed voice "in that case I won't intrude."

Canada seems to have reached a point of development where there is substantial appreciation of Canadian magazine effort. The Home Journal announces an increase on June 1st from twenty eight to forty four pages with a number of new departments. Miss Jean Graham, at present on the staff of the Canadian Courier and a staff writer also of the Canadian Magazine, takes the editorial management on April 1st, and is associating with her a number of the best known Canadian writers. The Home Journal, when the proposed changes have been inaugurated, will be one of the best journals of its class on the continent. The price is to be advanced with the June number, but in the meantime subscriptions are being taken at the old figure.

In reward of faithful political service an ambitious saloon keeper was appointed as police magistrate in his district.

"What's the charge agin this man here?" he asked as his first case was called.

"Drunk," your honor," replied the policeman.

The newly made magistrate frowned upon the trembling defendant.

"Guilty or not guilty?" he demanded.

"Sure sir," falteord the defendant, 'I never drank a drop."

"Have a cigar then," urged his honor persuasively, as he absently polished the top of the judicial desk with his pocket handkerchief.

LOT FOR SALE—West Fernie, Apply Ledger Office.

Young lady wants position as stenographer. Apply Ledger office.

A Poor Shoe
Will not mend its its looks by shining!

Get the kind that are made right in the beginning. Right in shape, which gives them style. Right in fit, which gives them comfort. Right in durability which makes them wear well. The right kind are always to be had at right prices at

McDougall's

W. R. McDougall

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New Store! New Goods!

Everything is Nice and Fresh

The Stock is complete in all lines. You will find in part, Drugs, Patent Medicines, Magazines of all kinds, Daily Newspapers and Weeklies, Stationery and Office Supplies, Garden and Flower Seeds, Toilet Articles, Fancy Goods, Fine Soaps, &c., &c. Call and see the store and the goods

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You will find us on the Corner where the Post Office was before the Fire

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A splendid display of Ladies' Ready to wear hats..... $3.50

Ladies' Dress Hats trimmed with Wings, chiffon, Flowers and Foliage A splendid assortment to choose from both large and small at a reasonable price..... 6.00

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Fresh, Smoked and Salted Fish, always a good assortment. Try our Mince Meat, Saurkraut and Oysters.

The 41 Meat Market Limited

Wholesale and Retail Butchers

Stores in all the Principal Towns in British Columbia and Alberta

Veal, Pork, Mutton, Beef — Phone 41 — Hams, Bacon, Saurkraut, Salt Fish

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Our Motto "Civility, Cleanliness and correct weight to all"

The Workingman's Store

Don't forget that I am back in the old stand and that my prices are better than ever

Men's Suits	$5.00	to	$20
" Shirts	75c	to	6.00
" Shoes	2.00	to	5.00
" Caps	50c	to	1.50
" Trunks	3.50	to	$25

See my swell line of Neckties all styles - - - 50c to $3

A. A. GILLESPIE

(Next door to Hotel Fernie)

Singer Sewing Machines Co.,

Fernie, B. C.

Why be without a Sewing Machine when you can get one for $3.00 a month?

J. P. HOULAHAN, Agent, opposite Coal Co.'s office, Pellat Ave.

THE WEST FERNIE PRIDE

One of the certain indications of spring is the awakening of the soul of the spring poet. Spasm 1:

There's one small spot in the British land, that will always be dear to me,
It's a little lot on a sunny hill in the west part of Fernie, B. C.
This lot is sheltered on the north and west by mountains tall and grand
The east and south are bordered by a pleasant valley land.

Trees and stumps that decked the ground have all been cleared away
By days and days of labor, but from now on 'twill be play.
For when you're passing to and fro, you will be surprised to see
Growing where those stumps stood, some thrifty apple trees.

When the April clouds break over and send their welcome showers down
The beauty of my orchard flowers will be the talk of all the town.
And their fragrant perfumes will blend the air so sweet,
And be wafted by the west winds down through all of Fernie's streets.

Strangers coming into town will be surprised to know
That apple trees when planted will in Fernie ever grow.
And some will be so anxious to buy my orchard land
For the winters here are pleasant, and the summers are so grand.

When the long, bright sunshine days of June are on the wing,
I'll be strolling through my orchard just as proud as any king,
And you'll hear my voice re-echo through this mountain air so free,
As I sing that well known song: Under the shade of the old apple tree.

Soon, oh soon July and August will go flying swiftly by,
And the apple harvest season in its splendor will be night,
Ah, 'tis then twill keep me hustling from early morn till night
But the picking of the apples will be a sure delight.

When you're out a shopping on Fernie's busy street,
You will be surprised at the rosy apples that your wandering eyes will meet,
Through the windows if you'll notice you can look to any side,
The leaders among the apples are the West Fernie Pride.

You will know them by their color, you will know them by their size,
Go north, go south, go where you will, from east to farthest west,
'Twill be the same, same story, Fernie apples are the best.

Go to the rich man's dwelling where luxury does reside,
He always uses apples and they're the West Fernie Pride,
Go to the poor man's humble cottage, where poverty doth reign,
You'll find that when he uses apples it's the Fernie Pride again.

You can travel o'er the continent either walk or ride
But wherever there are apples you'll find the Fernie Pride.
There'll be so many orders from near and foreign lands
In fact it will keep me pondering to supply the demands

There'll be a rushing order from even Model Paris
Forward us some apples just as soon as you get this,
For we hear you have some beauties, that are worthy of their name
We should like to try a sample —find enclosed the price for same.

There'll be orders from my apples from Australia and Japan
From the rugged coast of Scotland, and the little Isle of Man,
From Greenland's icy mountains, from the southern strawberry land,
From Asia's barren deserts will come the same demands.

You can board a ship that's loaded, and will brave the rolling tide,
If she carries any apples you will find they're the Fernie Pride.
On any station platform boxes of apples you'll see,
Labelled with large black letters — Apples from Fernie B. C. —

You can go to all the fairs or any exhibition,
The Fernie Pride will take first prize, above all other competition,
There's no other apple that can quite compete,
For the Fernie Pride just simply can't be beat.
And now kind friends, when here we part
To cross that river to the other side,
If apples are admitted there,
We'll find there also the Fernie Pride.

—By a West Fernie Apple Grower

Watching For Result

(Continued from page 1)

tern Canadian Collieries Limited at Lille and Bellevue.

I then found that these companies although disposed to be fair to our union, would not sign up because of a telegram from International President T. L. Lewis to the Operators association stating that the agreements would be signed and that International Board Member J. E. Morgan would be sent here with full power to act.

This action of President Lewis before asking District No. 18 for an explanation of their action, I strongly resent and simply wish to say that it is impossible for me to do justice to my position in fighting for the Canadian miners if the International union is to take the side of the Operators Association before hearing our case of District 18.

With regard to the referendum vote about which so much fuss appears to be made by the Operators Association, less than one third of our members affected voted in favor of the agreement, and only then because the members of our scale committee who visited the locals told our members that they could not get any better agreements, and that we could not get the support of the International union. In some cases amendments were promised before the vote was obtained. I, therefore, was not influenced by a vote such as was obtained.

COPY OF TELEGRAMS

Indianapolis April 2 '09

F. H. SHERMAN,
Frank

Telegram received from representative Western Coal Operators association that you refuse to sign up contract after ratification by referendum vote. Kindly explain by return wire.

T. L. LEWIS

(ANSWER)

T. L. LEWIS,
State Life, Indianapolis.

Statement of operators incorrect. Agreement signed with companies employing 2700 men, 2000 idle; negotiations pending other companies; full report by letter.

F. H. SHERMAN

Frank April 5

T. L. LEWIS
Indianapolis.

Our local unions unanimous in supporting action of district executive board in refusing to obey final proposition of Western Coal operators association who are in minority in this coalfield.

Your action in wiring Stockett that agreement will be signed by your representative strongly resented. Canadian miners will not tolerate another Tom Burke.

Other members Operators association now in negotiations with us; nothing but action of international union can defeat us.

F. H. SHERMAN

Philadelphia April 6

F. H. SHERMAN,
Frank

My information you failed to be present at conference; local union ratied proposition submitted to them. I have a right to believe Canadian miners believe in strict observation of contract provisions. Board Member Morgan on way there with authority to act.

T. L. LEWIS

The copy sent to President Stockett of the Operators Association reads as follows:

Indianapolis, April 1

LEWIS STOCKETT
President Western Coal Operators Association Hosmer Mines B. C.

Wages contracts agreed upon will be signed by our representative. We expect at all times representatives of the United Mine Workers to comply with any agreement that is made and this is specially true when ratified by referendum vote of our members. Officials of district eighteen will be notified immediately.

T. L. LEWIS

WHO SAID FIRE?

We did. We are firing away at the old business

CREE & MOFFATT

FOUR SHOT IN A DUEL

As a Result of Bitterness of Old Parties

WELLSVILLE, Ohio, April 6—Four persons were injured in a pistol duel and general fight between members of the Good Citizens league and men who had been drinking in a houseboat anchored in the Ohio river sixty feet from the shore.

While the West Virginia line comes to the Ohio side of the river the Ohio authorities have been claiming jurisdiction over the sale of liquor close to the shore until a decision last week gave undisputed right to sell liquor in boats sixty feet from the Ohio bank without interference by Ohio authorities.

A boat said to be well stocked with liquors arrived early this morning and anchored off the shore. During the day the boat was visited by crowds from the shore who were carried in skiffs and small boats, while the dock was lined with men.

When the president of the Good Citizens league passed near the place it was thought he was taking the names of those around the boat, and he was knocked down and severely beaten. He thereupon slashed back with a knife.

A little later Dr. Barnes of the same society, knowing nothing of the former fight, passed by the same place and members of the gang stopped him.

Revolvers were drawn and firing began. Several rounds were exchanged with the results named.

SAILOR ON ICE BERG

Almost Incredible Story Told to Magistrate

PHILADELPHIA, April 7—One of the most peculiar yarns Magistrate Borie said he ever heard, was that told him by James Hogan, who was arraigned today on a charge of drunk and disorderly conduct in the Fifth and Race street police station.

Hogan, who says he is an oyster fisherman, declared that he boarded an iceberg which drifted into Chesapeake bay and several big polar bears came along and scared the rest of the crew to the boat, leaving him stranded.

For ten days I drifted on that iceberg living on fish and birds that had frozen into the iceberg when it formed. In that time we drifted from the Chesapeake to the Delaware bay,' said the sailor.

"I had the time of my life dodging the bears and as the berg was melting and getting smaller all the time I knew it was only a question of time before they must discover me. At last the berg got so small that there was only one place for me to stay and that was on a platform of ice right above the bear's cave. One day when I was sitting on my perch one of the bears fell overboard. Seeing him in the water below me I was seized with an irresistable impulse to jump on his back. I did so. Frantic with fear at the sudden shock the brute plunged forward and swam at lightning speed straight up the bay."

"That will do," interrupted the magistrate. "It's a beautiful yarn, but you should have told it to the marines and not to a magistrate. Thirty days for you."

SEVEN KILLED IN MINE

JOHNSTOWN, Pan., April 12—Seven miners, all foreigners, were killed by the explosion of a premature blast in mine number 37 of the Berwynd-Whyte workings near the village of Winber, south of here about 5 this evening.

It is not known how the blast came to be set off.

Rescue parties headed by officials of the mine at once started to work and the bodies of all seven men were recovered before midnight. The mine is in good condition and no damage was done except in the immediate vicinity of the blast.

Local News

Miss Laura Dudley is laid up by a severe cold.

School re-opens to-morrow after the Easter holidays.

H. H. Ross of Waldo was registered at the Fernie to-day.

R. R. Webb is now the vocal artist at the Fernie opera house.

Mrs. Bowser left for a short visit to Elko and Carnbrook.

George and Alex. Taschereau leave for Spokane on tonight's Flyer.

Mayor Herchmer and W. Manson spent the week end at Spokane.

Mrs. Jarvis and her mother left yesterday evening for a visit to Calgary.

Jack McConkey, barber, lately with J. Scott, left for the coast on Sunday morning.

A large number journeyed to Elko on Sunday. Fred Roo's yarns are good for a Sunday treat, they say.

Complete change of pictures at the Fernie opera house to-night. Some real laughable films are promised.

The Trades and Labor council will meet this evening at 7.45. All delegates are requested to be on hand promptly.

The singing of The Palms by Miss Rudnicki last Friday was very much appreciated by the patrons of Fernie opera house.

J. A Tormey came up from Baynes this morning. Mr. Tormey assured us that the irrigation would be complete on the Kootonia tract in six weeks.

Mr. W. S. Stanley, cousin of the manager and editor of this rag of freedom came up from Baynes this morning.

Even the ice cream parlors and tobacco stores had a sign which to the thirsty man and the smoker meant "Nothin' Doin" yesterday. The council are certainly there.

Mr. Bates of Whimster and Co. took a trip to Lethbridge last week, which place he says is thriving. Like lots of others, however, he returned to Fernie.

Thomas Barrow was run in on Sunday morning by P. C. Gorman and was up before the beak on the drunk and disorderly charge. $11 was resuired to square his account with the world.

Mr. Kent Scovil of Spokane Fruit & Produce Co. came into the city Friday night. Mr. Scovil is a cartoonist of marked ability and several members of the Ledger staff have their hooks out for him.

Oren Leevi McNall (curly) was fined $20 and costs or given the option of 30 days on the charge of being a frequenter of immoral houses. A couple of hours at snow shovelling had the effect of bringing through the necessary $20 and he was ordered to leave the city.

Friends of Fred Dick will be sorry to learn that he is suffering from an attack of inflammatory rheumatism.

A meeting of the bar tenders was called for Sunday afternoon for the purpose of forming a union. Several of the members were unable to attend so the meting will be held at a later date.

A very amusing story is just to hand in connection with Sunday's evangelical campaign at Spokane. It appears that one of the audience rose to leave the meeting and Sunday called to him "Hold on there friend, an aunt of mine went to hell by leaving a gospel meeting.' The man looked at the speaker and quietly replied — "Have you any message you would like to send her?"

Constable Gorman found Wm. Cook wandering around the streets in a sorry plight at an early hour this morning. It appears that he tried to suicide in the premises formerly occupied by the Fire Relief committee and afterwards took to the streets covered with blood. The instruments used were two pocket knives. Several hacks and wounds were found in the region of the heart. Dr. Anderson was called and attended the man. A number of the cuts were quite deep and as a result the man may be laid up for some time. At present no cause can be ascertained for his rash

How do you like the stork, Jack?

The police look nifty in their new Easter hats.

H. Oldland and wife spent Sunday in our city.

John Hunter was arrested by the chief of police for being drunk and was fined 1$0.

Mr. Wm. Muir, representing the Lethbridge Brewing Company was in town this week.

Vin Coll was fiend $5 costs and given ten hours to leave town. G. H. Boulton conducted the case.

A meeting of the Fernie Football club is to be held on Wednesday evening. All interetsed are urged to attend.

"Sugar" Dixon came into town last Friday, representing C. R. Dixon C Co., Limited, wholesale produce dealers of Calgary.

O. D. Austin, representing the Lethbridge Herald is in the city at present getting the right side of the strike news for his paper.

James Lindsay was in the city on Monday. He reports work progressing very rapidly and says there is no place like Ferine.

R. W. Jackson of Reston, Man., arrived in the city on Wednesday to accept the position of accountant for the Wood-McNab Lumber Co.

TRAINS COLLIDE

TWEED, Ont., April 12—Early this morning two C. P. R. special passenger trains collided on a curve in a rock cut a mile east of here. The responsibility is placed on Operator W. Johnston at Kaladar, who is said to have been asleep and accepted orders for a train after the same had gone through.

He resigned as soon as he heard of the wreck.

The trains were in charge of Conductors Scanlon and Webb. Both of the engineers jumped and were unhurt. The passengers were badly shaken up. The damage is estimated at $20,000.

PERHAPS MURDERED

MINNEAPOLIS, April 12—D. C. Sullivan, president of the Sullivan Elevator company is believed to have been murdered.

Sullivan disappeared on March 27. His relatives have made a vain hunt for him. To-day it was announced that a reward had been offered for any information concerning his whereabouts. Sullivan left his office at about noon, saying he was going to St. Paul on business. Later in the afternoon word was received from him to the effect that he had given up the trip and would return to the office in a short time.

He failed to put in an appearance, and since then nothing has been heard of him.

C. P. R. TIME TABLE.

No. 8 Flyer Eastbound	24.18
No. 7 Flyer Westbound	1.55
No. 214 Eastbound Regular	18.25
No. 213 Westbound Regular	9.46
No. 236 Eastbound 1st class ..	9.00
No. 235 Westbound, 1st class ..	20.15

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