# The District Ledger

Industrial Unity Is Strength — The Official Organ of District No. 18, U. M. W. of A. — Political Unity Is Victory

No. 11, Vol. VIII. — THE DISTRICT LEDGER, FERNIE, B.C., NOVEMBER 14, 1914


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# Hard Times Dance Nov. 23rd

## Latest Decisions of Indp. Chairman

**McGILLIVRAY CREEK COAL AND COKE CO., Ltd., Re CARBONDALE MINE**

**MINIMUM WAGE CLAUSE**

The dispute in this case arises between the miners and the company under the following circumstances. The employees engaged as coal miners while passing through an abnormal condition of the seam failed to make the minimum wage for sixteen shifts out of thirty-eight; twenty-two shifts being worked before striking a fault. In respect of those twenty-two shifts the earnings of the men amounted to $6.00 per day per man, the remaining shifts were worked after or while passing through the abnormal condition. The approximate wage earned during the latter period was $1.30 per man per shift, and although previously to striking the abnormal condition the men were making twice the minimum wage, they contend that they should be entitled to receive, for the period when they were working under abnormal conditions, the minimum wage, and that an average should not be taken for the whole period during which they were working. A similar question arose in the year 1908, which was raised by the employees of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, Ltd. At that time the existing agreement provided that—

"any miner failing to receive the minimum wage of $3.00 per shift, owing to an abnormal condition in his working place, shall be paid by the company a sufficient amount to secure him the said minimum."

A joint committee of the association and men consisting of Messrs. Hurd, Stockett and McNeil, representing the Association, and Messrs. Sherman, Galvin and Macdonald representing the men, found and decided that where a miner worked in an abnormal place during a portion of the month and in a normal place during the balance of the month, it was the intention of the minimum wage clause that the minimum rate should be paid for the time worked in the abnormal place, but if the miner received above the minimum rate in one place during the month, he was not to have that portion of the month made up, during which he had failed to earn the minimum wage.

Under this decision the various companies and their employees have been working up to the present time, and it is understood that the present question is the first one that has been raised since the finding was made. At the time it was made the wages were paid once a month, and although the existing agreement between the Western Coal Operators Association and District 18, United Mine Workers of America, contemplates payment of wages monthly, we decide inasmuch as the law in Alberta provides for the payment of the men twice a month, that the average wage should be struck also twice a month in Alberta.

This arrangement while carrying out the spirit of the Agreement will not contravene its provisions.

We decide therefore under the circumstances above stated that the minimum wage should not be paid to the men during the time that they were passing through the abnormal conditions, but that an average should be struck on each pay day and if such average does not amount to the minimum wage owing to abnormal conditions, it will, of course, have to be made up to the minimum wage.

Dated at Calgary this 31st October, 1914.

Wm. Roland, Winter, Chairman,
W. F. McNeill, Commissioner
Western Coal Operators' Asso.
Dmc. Coll. Hardie (witness)

**WESTERN CANADIAN COLLIERIES Re BELLEVUE MINES**

**COMPLAINT OF DISCRIMINATION**

The dispute submitted to the committee is whether discrimination was exercised by the company in removing two men employed as fan men. These two men were not discharged but were removed from their employment and given other employment at the mine, the latter employment being more remunerative to them than their employment as fan-men. It is not suggested that the fan-men were replaced by non-union men, but it is contended for the men that they should not be liable to removal from work on which they are engaged, to other work at the mine, without reason being assigned.

This matter is not one of "discrimination" at all, but is one relating to the "management' of the mine and is covered by the provision of the agreement of the 17th November, 1911, made between the Western Coal Operators Association and District No. 18, United Mine Workers of America, which expressly provides, in the clearest terms, that the "management of the mine and the direction of the working forces are vested exclusively in the company and that the U. M. W. of America shall not abridge that right."

In view of the circumstances and of the provisions above quoted we find that there was no "discrimination" exercised by the Company and that they were fully within their rights in changing the occupation of the fan-men without being bound to assign a reason for such charge.

Dated at Calgary this 31st October, 1914.

W. Roland Winter, Chairman.
W. F. McNeill, Commissioner
Western Coal Operators' Asso.
Dmc. Coll. Hardie (witness)

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## District Executive Board Meets

### Discuss Unemployed Question

The Executive Board of District 18 were in session in Fernie on Saturday, Sunday and Monday last. There were present W. L. Phillips (President), W. Graham (Vice-President), A. J. Carter (Secretary-Treasurer), Board Members Martin, Hayson, Larsen, Wheatley and International Board Member D. Rees.

Amongst other matters on the agenda was that of the unemployed in the District. The Board endeavored to find some practical solution to meet the present crisis, but realized the hopelessness in attempting to adequately deal with a question of such magnitude. This should not be a matter of surprise when it is taken into consideration that the Governments have failed up to the present to find any practical means of coping with the situation. It is quite true they have from time to time made spasmodic attempts to relieve the distress amongst the unemployed, but as yet nothing has been done by any government that will meet the economic requirements of society when passing through a depression that is common today.

In view of this the Board felt, with their limited resources at hand, they had an almost impossible task. They did, however, make the best effort, under the circumstances, the purport of which will be gleaned through the circular printed below.

The officials and the Board Members will attend meetings of the Local Unions throughout the District during the next few days with a view of thoroughly explaining the position of Executive.

**Re UNEMPLOYED QUESTION**

In view of the present industrial depression which is unprecedented in our history, we feel compelled to move immediately in a concrete manner.

As an Executive Board, we appreciate the position that Constitutionally we cannot disburse our funds for charitable purposes, our function being mainly to protect wages and establish better conditions whenever possible. In order to further such policy, strikes are sometimes inaugurated, and we support our membership as liberally as possible during such periods, hence the necessity of maintaining our funds for such contingencies.

Our idea in conection with the present distress is to establish the nucleus of a fund which will have for its object the providing for all necessitous cases in our midst.

However, in view of the abnormal suffering, we recommend a departure from our Constitutional rules, and would ask our membership to endorse the following scheme:

1st. That on December 1st next we place Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00) from our treasury into a fund to be known as the GENERAL ASSOCIATED RELIEF FUND.

2nd. That an assessment be placed on all our members earning over fifty dollars ($50.00) per month on the following scale. The first $50.00 to be non-assessable; amounts from $50.00 to $75.00, 2 per cent; $75.00 to $100.00, 5 per cent; 100.00 and upwards, 10 per cent.

3rd. That wherever practicable to divide up work, if the division will not reduce the party employed to a wage less than Fifty Dollars ($50.00) per month.

4th. That all Local Unions place all possible finance into the aforementioned General Fund.

5th. That disbursements be so arranged that each recipient be treated alike in proportion to number of family.

6th. That a pro rata amount from the General Fund be allotted to each camp, so as to ensure an equitable distribution of relief.

7th. In the event said proposals are endorsed by our membership, we immediately notify Dominion Provincial and Municipal authorities of our plan, pointing out our inability to fully cope with the situation and petition them to establish some law, making it compulsory for all parties to support these suggestions, otherwise to inaugurate another more practicable scheme.

8th. That Local Unions be requested to furnish necessary data, regarding the conditions of those requiring relief.

9th. In submitting the above, we fully realize the fact that we cannot suggest any policy which will not meet with certain criticism. However, something has to be started and we are prepared to accept the responsibility for submitting the foregoing proposals for your consideration.

On behalf of the Executive Board.

W. L. PHILLIPS, President.
A. J. CARTER, Secretary-Treas.

## Labor Commission In Calgary, Alberta

The report of the Executive Committee of the Alberta Federation of Labor among other matters contained a report of the Committee's action with regard to the unemployed situation, and stated that after an interview with the Provincial Government (see page 2) at which the full cabinet with one exception was present, it was arranged to call a meeting in the city of Calgary of representatives of the Dominion and Provincial Governments and civic heads for the purpose of forcing immediate and definite action to make provision for the relief of distress. It was later found that the date originally set down, viz., October 30, would have to be postponed as it would take more time to make provision for Dominion Government representation. After a consultation with Mr. R. B. Bennett, M.P. for Calgary, a telegram was sent to the Dominion Government explaining the objects of proposed meeting and asking for attendance of an official representative from them. In answer to this the following telegram was received:

Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 2, 1914.

Alex. Ross, Box 229, Calgary, Alta.

Your telegram 26th. An official of Dominion Labor Department will be in attendance at your meeting whenever called with instructions to report all attainable information for consideration of government. It is not considered advisable that he should have representative powers.

G. E. FOSTER,
Acting Premier.

The decision of the Government not to send an official representative, was somewhat disappointing to Committee, but it was decided to call meeting for Friday, Nov. 6. Accordingly notification of meeting was sent to the Dominion and Provincial Governments, to the Mayors of Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat and District 18 was notified by wire to Secretary Carter.

At 10 o'clock on Friday morning, November 6, the following gentlemen were in attendance at the Council Chamber, City Hall, Calgary:

For the Alberta Federation of Labor—President Alex. Ross, Vice-President L. T. English and Secretary Alfred Farmilo.

For the Dominion Department of Labor—J. D. McNiven.

For the Provincial Government—Hon. Mr. C. Mitchell.

For the City of Calgary—Mayor Sinnott.

For the City of Edmonton—Acting Mayor Smith and Ald. J. A. Kinney.

For the City of Lethbridge—Mayor Hardie, Louis Moore and President Marnoch of the Board of Trade.

For District 18—Frank Wheatley.

The following telegram was received from Mayor Brown of Medicine Hat:

L. T. English, Vice-President Alberta Federation of Labor, Calgary, Alta.

Owing to my absence from city yesterday, impossible to attend your session in Calgary today. Deeply regret inability to be present. Am thoroughly in accord with movement. Will be glad to co-operate with your organization at any later date set for meetings called for purpose of trying to solve the acute situation. If you desire any information regarding local information will be glad if you will call me on the phone at our expense.

M. A. Brown, Mayor.

Alex. Ross, President of the Federation took the chair and called the meeting to order. He recited the events which led up to this meeting and pointed out the seriousness of the unemployed situation, laying emphasis on the fact.

That there were between four and five thousand unemployed in the City of Calgary. A matter calling for immediate investigation and adjustment was the wholesale importation of coal, and he quoted the report of commissioner of customs, Port Arthur, which showed that more coal was imported there than is mined in Alberta.

J. D. McNiven: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I really have not got very much to say. I am not here representing the Dominion Government entirely upon this unemployment question. Of course, it is my duty to ascertain the labor conditions generally and to report to my own Department—the Depantment of Labor. I received a wire from the Department a few days ago to come to Calgary and find out the object of this meeting and what the intention was. Now, I am not authorized to make any proposition at all on behalf of the government. As far as the unemployment question goes, it is in a very unsatisfactory condition just now throughout the whole of the West, and I am sure it will need the active co-operation of all parties in order to relieve it with any degree of success. The chairman has referred to a shuffling of responsibility. That may be, but I think that it is up to everybody now to take a hand in this question to do the utmost of their ability. There is a great deal of unemployment, much more than I have ever seen in the country before, and on account of the lack of work throughout the summer, it leaves men in rather a bad condition to meet the winter. Now, I am not here to advise what to do, but rather to hear what ought to be done and to report same to my Department. I do not think I can say anything further just now.

Mayor Sinnott, Calgary: Has any register ever been kept as to where the unemployed come from; what the immediate causes are for large numbers of men flowing into the city, and

(Continued on Page Six)

## Fraternal Societies Will Help Distressed

A meeting of the Fraternal Societies' Relief Committee was held in the City Hall on Sunday last, Mr. Geddings in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting, and of the meeting of the Dance Committee were read, and on motion adopted.

The report of the committee appointed to interview the principal of the Public School was also read.

The secretary (Mr. J. Skilling) advised the gathering that the Victoria Hall had been secured at the price of $12.50.

The question of the best location for a soup kitchen then came up, and it was regularly moved and seconded that the secretary be instructed to write the secretary of the School Trustees asking them to appoint a date on which they would be able to meet a deputation on this point.

Moved by Mrs. Lystanic, seconded by Mr. Bird that a committee be appointed to meet the Ladies Benevolent Society relative to cases of urgent need that the school teachers had reported. The committee appointed consisted of Mrs. Duthie, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Minton and Mr. Skilling.

It was decided that the Dance be held on November 23rd in the Victoria Hall.

As there is evidently an impression among other charitable concerns in town that the brothers and sisters of the fraternal orders wish to trespass upon their preserves, and as this feeling was very plainly expressed upon the occasion when the committee appointed to meet the Ladies' Benevolent Society, called upon them, it is only fair to clearly expound the position of the brothers and sisters of the fraternal societies in this town.

In the first place, every fair-minded individual recognizes the work that has been accomplished by the ladies of the Benevolent Society, and it is the wish of all that they continue. There is positively no desire on the part of anyone to rob them of praise or belittle their efforts. This should be most clearly understood.

Nevertheless, this, unfortunately, does not appear to be the attitude with which certain ladies in this town regard the action of the brothers and sisters of the fraternal orders in town. In the first place we submit, with all due respect for the feelings of such ladies, that our strength and the objects for which we are bonded together, amply justify us in taking the action we have. Charity is not a virtue that any person can claim a monopoly of or regard as their own special prerequisite. If there is a desire on the part of certain ladies to regard the position of "my lady bountiful" as a privilege all their own, then, indeed it is unfortunate for those in distress in this town. This, in our opinion, is not the intention of the majority of ladies who have from year to year so generously tried to relieve, and in many cases succeeded, the distress in our midst.

It has been stated repeatedly, and truthfully so, that there are two classes who approach the Ladies of the Benevolent Society—those who intend to impose on them and those who are driven by sheer desperation to seek their aid. The former is verified by the repeated assertions of the ladies themselves that they must investigate as they have been imposed upon so often. Again, there are many who have candidly refused to approach the ladies, stating that they prefer want to their charity. This is not very kind to the ladies, but it is an admitted fact by them, and we have had cases come to our notice of people going without rather than appeal to them. This is no reflection upon the ladies, but, as stated, is admitted by them.

The fraternal orders in this town are over seven hundred strong, and they realized that many of their own members would be in want. The question that confronted them was: How to deal with these cases and not use the usual inquisitorial method of investigation that is invariably regarded as necessary. After much discussion it was decided that all the fraternal orders amalgamate and devise some scheme for raising funds, and that same be distributed by the various lodges among those members applying for temporary relief and help. Should any case of particular distress come under our notice, and the individuals not be members of any fraternal order, we must recommend them to the Ladies of the Benevolent Society, should they, however, refuse to consider such cases, then we, bound by the strongest obligations possible to help distressed humanity, and must go to their assistance.

We handed the ladies a list of children who were going to school insufficiently clad, and we regret that the reply received was not very satisfactory, and since receiving this reply we have ascertained that three of the children on that list are in sore need of warm clothing. Their needs will be looked after.

To conclude, we regret that any ill-feeling should have been engendered by the action of the fraternal orders, and trust the members of other charitable concerns will view the matter in the light that Charity is not a virtue that belongs to any particular class or organization and can not under any circumstances be regarded as a prerequisite.

There is work enough for all and to spare, and we shall indeed be mean and despicable if we allow any to suffer as a result of our pride or injured feelings.—On behalf of the Fraternal Orders Committee.

**To the Secretaries of Local Unions, District 18, United Mine Workers of America.**

**Re UNEMPLOYED**

Greeting—

As you will see by the enclosed circular, your Executive Board are making an effort to deal with the very serious depressed conditions that are prevalent throughout the District. You will observe that you are requested to take action in order to determine whether the proposals submitted meet your approval or otherwise. We would recommend that arrangements be made to hold a special meeting and take a ballot in said meeting to decide upon this matter, and would kindly ask you to forward to District Office, not later than 18th inst., the number of men voting for and against the scheme.

We would draw to your notice that the officers have agreed to donate 30 per cent of their salaries to this fund if inaugurated, and we believe that our membership should be prepared to make some sacrifices at this time to meet the very pressing needs for relief effecting a great number of our members.

Yours fraternally,

W. L. PHILLIPS, President.
WM. GRAHAM, Vice-President.
A. J. CARTER, Secretary.

## In The Colorado Strike District

DENVER, Col., Nov. 10.—Voters of Colorado sustained President Wilson in his efforts to settle the coal strike when they returned three Democrats to Congress and re-elected their Democratic senator last Tuesday.

The striking feature of the election was that these same voters repudiated the Ammons Democratic administration which permitted the Ludlow Massacre and other strike disorders resulting in the murder and cremation of thirty-four men, women and children. With the exception of two offices, every Democratic candidate was defeated.

[illegible] to make the State go [illegible] and Senator Patterson claimed in a public speech that he also handed the Denver Post $60,000 to support his candidate for governor. This, with the [illegible] ministration was too much for the Democratic State candidate to carry.

Labor won a splendid victory when they elected District Judge Teller to the Supreme Court bench, thus defeating Judge Campbell, who has been notoriously opposed to organized and unorganized labor.

Labor centered most of its support on Mary C. C. Bradford, superintendent of public schools and re-elected her by a handsome majority.

The faith of the people of Colorado in the President is well shown by the vote for United States Senator, while the disgust of Colorado citizens with anarchistic rule of the Ammons Democratic administration led them to elect a Republican governor by a vote of 121,061 to 87,533, the voters returned the present Democratic United States Senator, Charles S. Thomas, by a vote of 91,834 to 90,173.

Congressman Edward Keating who put up such a splendid fight for Congress for the striking miners, was re-elected by a good majority, while Congressman George Kindel, the only Colorado representative to oppose the workers, received not 5,000 votes for the United States Senate, as against the 91,000 vote of Thomas.

Keating's majority in spite of a Republican landslide, is a splendid tribute, a handsome reward, for faithful service to his constituents.

[illegible] of county officers in the strike district was even more corrupt than in former years. Heretofore the coal companies were content with voting their pay roll. This year it is claimed that they voted 356 more men than were on their pay roll. With an honest election the labor ticket would have been elected by a majority of at least 300.

A new arrangement for the working of the Coal Creek mines went into force on Wednesday and from now on so long as the short time work continues all the mines at the Creek will work the morning shift only, the afternoon and night shifts being suspended for the present. This will mean a more equitable distribution of work during the period of depression.

Keystone Comedy, "A Muddy Romance," at the Orpheum, Friday and Saturday.

# Alberta Federation of Labor

## To the Officers and Members of Affiliated Local Uuionists

Gentlemen and Brothers—

The following memorandum of interview between the Hon. A. L. Sifton, Premier of Alberta, and the following members of your Executive: President A. Ross, Vice-President English, Vice-President Vickerage, Vice-President Alford, Vice-President Graham, Secretary-Treasurer Carter, District 18, United Mine Workers, and Secretary-Treasurer Farmilo. Ex-President Jones also accompanied the deputation.

We were informed by the Prime Minister in the initial stages of our interview that all members of the house had agreed including the opposition, not to bring any contentious legislation before the House this session.

He thought that matters not requiring special legislation could be dealt with, however he was willing to discuss proposed legislation that could be brought before the house at a later date.

No. 1. Amendments to the Theatres Act, to provide for the examination of applicants for licenses as operators as to their competency; also measures of public safety.

Answer—He did not think that these matters could be brought up at this session. However, he was not opposed to such legislation.

No. 2. An Act Governing Electrical Construction for public safety.

Answer—He would be pleased to take this matter up and asked that we submit copy of proposed act.

No. 3. New Factories Inspection Act, covering sanitation and ventilation of workshops and factories.

Answer—There would not be any legislation before the House this session, but would be pleased to have us submit a draft of our proposed Act.

No. 4. Legislation providing for the administration of the marriage contract by civil officials.

Answer—There is already provision on the statutes governing this matter in certain districts. However, he did not deem it expedient to extend the Act to cities and municipalities.

No. 5. Fair-wage clause in all government contracts, and further the same provisions as contained in the A. & G. W. contract be incorporated in all railway and public works contracts.

Answer—He was under the impression that this provision was made in all contracts let by the Government, and he had no objection to such a clause being placed in all railway contracts entered into by the Government; and further he would bring to the attention of the Department the grievance through the violation of the fair-wage clause on bridges.

No. 6. Bi-weekly payment of wages in cash or certified cheque.

Answer—He was agreeable to see such in existence where practicable.

No. 7. New Compensation Act, as outlined in petition already submitted to the Government.

Answer—That the Attorney-General's Department was drafting an Act; they were using the Ontario, British Columbia and English Acts as their basis; and further, labor representatives would be given an opportunity to make suggestions before the act was introduced in the legislature.

No. 8. Adult Franchise in school district and municipal elections.

Answer—This matter was under consideration by the Government and so far as they were able they would draft up an act with uniform provisions to apply to all cities and municipalities.

No. 9. Legislation making it compulsory to place the Union Label on all Government printing.

Answer—Refused to comply with our request, giving as his reason that it was a constitutional custom not to have any other signs than that already provided by the King's Printer.

No. 10. That medical, dental and optical treatment be made free to all school children; that compulsory vaccination of school children be dispensed with.

Answer—He was in favor of school children having dental and optical treatment free, also he would take the matter of compulsory vaccination up with the Department of Education as the law did not compel any one to be vaccinated.

No. 11. The Prohibition of the Employment of Children under 16 years of age in all industries.

Answer—He gave no guarantee that he would take up the matter with Mr. Chadwick, superintendent of the department of Neglected Children.

No. 12. Prohibition of the Employment of white girls by Orientals.

Answer—The Government could not [illegible] pending litigation in other parts of the Dominion where a similar law exists.

No. 13. Amendments to the Building [illegible]

Answer—This matter will have the consideration of the Department, and asked that the proposed amendments be submitted.

No. 14. Protection of the interests of employees of Brewing Industry.

Answer—He gave his assurance that the interests of the brewery workers would be taken into consideration.

No. 15. Legislation covering all men engaged in rescue work in the mines of the province by the Compensation Act and to provide for the payment of rescue teams during the course of training.

Answer—He was in favor of the Compensation Act applying to this class of work and assured us both the matter of the paying of wages and compensation would be taken up with Mr. Stirling with a veiw to rectifying same.

No. 16. Amendment regarding the appointment of check measures and mine inspection committee.

Answer—He gave his assurance that he would take up this matter with the Department with a view to having the Act apply to such men.

No. 17. Re the matter of Hillcrest disaster and the appointment of miners to commission board.

Answer—He pointed out the composition of the board, showing that they were permanent officials, therefore if they were to be substituted by another commissioner at any time this could be done without much trouble, and further they were not receiving any pay from the fund whatsoever. He also stated that he would be pleased to send a letter to the District Secretary in effect that they would be consulted as to the distribution of funds from time to time, and would also notify the Commissioners to this effect. He could not see his way clear to add to the commission board.

Re the matter of Resolution No. 34, your committeee's attention has been called to an error in statement of fact contained therein by Vice-President Graham. The matter was referred back to the original movers and a request has since been received from President-Phillips of District 18, that the same be suppressed. Therefore your committee has decided not to present same and assume responsibility.

No. 18. Re the matter of the present distressing conditions of unemployment and necessary measures of relief.

Answer—He was agreed that the question was very serious and stated that it was impossible for the Government to do any public work because of the lack of money. He also stated that he could not see his way clear to assure the deputation that the governmeant could do anything for the cities and was leaving this question to the various city councils throughout the Province. He thought that they would be able to deal with outside districts which were not governed by a city corporation. The Government had been doing what it could to relieve the situation in rural districts and would continue that policy.

No. 19. Re the matter of amendments to the Masters and Servants Act.

Answer—He would be willing to take up this matter at a later date and asked that we submit amendments.

In further pursuance of legislative work, President Ross and Secretary Farmilo together with Vice President English and G. H. Geary, acting for Edmonton Trades and Labor Council, interviewed the Provincial Secretary Hon. A. McLean, with regard to amendments sought to the Theatres Act. Mr. McLean introduced the committee to Mr. Chadwick, provincial censor, as the official having charge of the matter in hand. Mr. Chadwick disclosed to the committee the workings of his department and submitted for perusal a draft of new regulations affecting moving picture theatres and operators which had been made by him. Your committee went over same and suggested some additions thereto as being in line with amendments sought by the moving picture theatre operators. Mr. Chadwick agreed to add our suggestions to new regulations and to submit a copy of proposed new regulation to Vice-President English before same would be made law by Order-in-Council.

Your committee met Hon. [illegible] with reply of Premier Sifton to our first deputation, re unemployment then interviewed Hon. C. Stewart, Minister of Public Works.

Mr. Stewart assured the Committee that the Government were doing a certain amount of [illegible] be assisted, where crops had failed. However, he felt that so far as the cities were concerned the Provincial Government were impotent without co[illegible]rporations, but assured us that he would be willing to meet Dominion and civic authoirties with a view to discussing unemployment which he realized was acute.

Your committee feeling that they would like to have an official declaration, sought a meeting with the whole of the Cabinet Ministers, the meeting taking place after the adjournment of the legislative assembly on Thursday, the 22nd of October, 1914. After a lengthy and acrimonious discussion, your committee could readily see that the Government were reluctant to take the initiative by introducing necessary measures of relief, finally the members of the Cabinet agreed to be officially represented at a meeting to be convened by the Alberta Federation of Labor should the meeting be composed of Federal and Civic representatives. It is the intention of your Executive to convene such a meeting in Calgary on the 30th of October, 1914.

Re the matter of Masters and Servants Act, your committee consulted *Mr. Mackie, solicitor*, with a view to ascertaining the legal status of the servant under the Masters and Servants Act. Your committee feel that this act cannot be amended to afford protection to the servant, and would suggest that at the next convention of the Alberta Federation of Labor, instead of pressing for amendments we press for the abrogation of the act.

Public Health Act, we find that it is possible to get an order in council passed which would extend the operation of act to embrace workshops and factories.

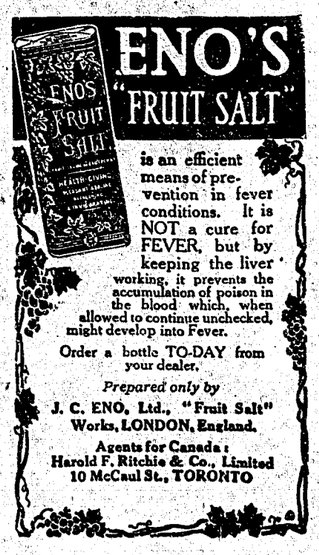
Your committee were unable to arrange a meeting with the Provincial Board of Health owing to the fact that they were inaccessible at this time, but the Executive Board will endeavor to arrange a meeting in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

A. FARMILO,

Secretary.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# *Some Remarks on Gas in Coal*

By G. A. Lavoie, Frank, Alta.

(From transactions Canadian Mining Institute. Paper presented at Banff meeting, Rocky Mountain branch.)

It seems to be universally admitted that the deposit and the decomposition ofv egetable matter were the constituting cause of our coal beds and the gases they contain, the decomposition of the cellulose under the influence of micro-organisms producing in different quantities carbon dioxide ($CO_2$) methane ($CH_4$), and pure hydrogen ($H_2$). Simultaneously many organic compounds were formed whose effect was to hinder the action of bacilli and prevent fermentation by making their medium antiseptic. Some form of fermentation probably produced $CH_4$ in abundance, another $CO_2$ and $H_2$, and finally, either by dissolution or combination, oxygen and hydrogen were almost entirely eliminated leaving carbon as a predominating substance. The process of this transformation, however, has not as yet been clearly explained, but despite this fact the micro-organism theory appeals most strongly to scientists.

### Distribution of Gas in Coal

Gas is very unevenly distributed in coal beds, some parts of a seam containing much more than others. This is especially noticeable in very gaseous mines, not only in the main return always, but also at the face. Sudden outbursts of gas and coal in apparently regular beds submitted to an even pressure show an irregularity in the quantities of the gases, the amount liberated in some explosions being entirely out of proportion to the normal quantity occluded in the coal. It has been reported that in an explosion some thirty years ago the gas disengaged by the projection of 4,200 cubic feet of outburst coal was estimated to be at least 100,000 cubic yards. The presence of blowers or gas pockets in the upper parts of the coal, or in the immediately overlying strata, also indicates the existence of certain points where the pressure is greater than elsewhere. Th irregularity may be explained in the following manner, viz.: The deposit of vegetable matter which gave rise to the coal formation could not, on account of the relative heterogeneity of its constituents, have an even compactness throughout its mass, and the void spaces contained in it must necessarily have varied extensively in size in different places according to the manner in which the fallen vegetation was deposited. The gases of fermentation, which the premature covering up of the veins prevented in great measure from escaping—would consequently be directed to those portions of the mass which contained the largest and most numerous voids, thus creating an uneven distribution of the volatile. Under the ever-increasing sedimentation the coal bed would be subject to an increasing pressure and the occluded gases would exert a very high state of initial compression.

### Effects of Gas Compression on Coal Texture

This compression, being also resistance, could not but be opposed to the agglomeration of the coal in latter times. Hence gas had a great deal to do with the texture of different coals. In certain sections of a seam the planes of cleavage are almost imperceptible, often disappearing altogether and making the coal crumby and dull instead of showing a long glossy grain. In the intricate system of the cleavage lines innumerable small joints of all shapes and dimensions greatly deform the coal texture, offering to close observation an infinity of brilliant facets indicating the existence of particles simply in contact. It may be stated that generally speaking coal high in volatile is the most friable, and that having a small gas percentage is the best agglomerated or hardest.

Through accidental causes, however, coal low in volatile may have been made very friable; such is the case at the Jaspar Park Collieries, where the coal was crushed through contortion due to external forces.

### Relative Impermeability of Coal

Now why throughout the ages have not gases been diffused more evenly through the coal under the pressure of the superincumbent strata? This is owing to the impermeability of the coal. Experiments made in many coal basins to measure the pressure of the occluded gases have thoroughly justified this theory. The pressure found in a boring by means of a manometer is proportionate to the quality of gas enclosed therein, and the proportion is regulated by the initial pressure of the gas and the area of the zone bled by the drill. The importance of this zone depends on the relative permeability of the seam at the point under observation, and also on the relative importance of the system of joints through which the drilling is made. Gas pressure as high as 42.5 atmospheres have been recorded in breastholes made in the immediate vicinity of other holes of the same dimensions in which the gas pressures were normal. Lyndsay Wood states that in the Horton Mine a drill hole giving an initial gas pressure of 20.7 kilograms, was still giving 11.1 kilograms eight months after. Messrs. Fontenelle and Lecocq after a series of experiments remarked that the quantity of gas exuded from some fragments of coal exposed to free air for many hours was hardly appreciable, although the gas pressure of the fuel amounted to many kilograms per litre keeping the grain and pores under a pressure comparatively high. E. E. Billington (Trans. 1912) shows a percentage increase in calorific value varying from 7 per cent. to 0.5 per cent. for a certain coal twenty-nine years old, and this difference is owing mainly to the decrease of carbin.

These facts among many others show that the exudance of gas contained in coal is but very slow in all cases, and that certain masses of coal are practically impermeable.

### Factors of Gas Pressure in Coal

Now the initial or latent pressure in coal depends on various factors:

The thickness of the sedimentation over the constituents of the seam, and especially the limit of time during which the first sediment was formed, in other words, the amount of obstruction opposed to the escape of the gas products of the decomposition [illegible] argeous strata, more slowly penetrated than the arinaceous, have most probably allowed a more complete exacuation of the gases than the latter. The [illegible] sandstone roofs the exudation of face gases is accomplished more readily than with shale roofs. It is the author's opinion, however, that this is due, not to the greater amount of gas but mainly to the latter usually breaking short and so releasing the coal from a part of the gravity forces.

Shank's theory on the Coal Creek Mine "bumps" seems to corroborate this opinion.

3. Differences, however small, between the constituents of the same coal bed in different regions.

1. Residual compression and tensional stresses due to the incomplete massive or molecular changes in the measures during the ages elapsed since the crust contraction of the earth began. It may be noted here that the initial agglomeration of coal and the escape of its gases might have been modified in the course of time by geological efforts of compression. These efforts have produced effects of different kinds. They have destroyed or notably diminished the cohesion of the carbonaceous particles, and, subsequently to the crushing of the coal, have forced out a portion of the gas which now exercises pressure along the planes of faults, or along the solid coal, confining the crushed or contorted zone.

### Nature of Gas Outbursts

We shall now consider briefly certain phenomena of disintegration suddenly occurring in a coal mass under the pressure of occluded gas, namely, explosions without fire. The volume of gas liberated in these explosions has in some cases been estimated to be thousands of cubic yards. The quantity of coal projected or simply displaced may vary from a few pounds to hundreds of tons. These outbursts occur sometimes without warning—the coal within a restricted zone is violently disintegrated with a deep clang, and a torrent of gas and dust is poured forth from the broken mass. These explosions are generally preceded by warnings very familiar to the miner. The seam is detected creeping, small fragments of coal are shot off the face, the gas is heard hissing, the timbers cracking, and finally the explosion occurs.

In working cross-measure drifts it frequently happens that the coal, by reason of gas pressure, violently bursts out the stratum next to the seam. In some cases the seam is partly or completely exposed before this outburst takes place. However, most of the gas explosions occur where the coal is actually being mined, although sometimes in the absence of the miners as was the case in the first and third Bellevue explosions. The sudden exudance of gas and propulsion of coal will nearly always affect a whole face or breast, although it is frequently limited to one or to a few of the seam layers.

### Ratio of Gas Expansion to Coal Resistance

The gases enclosed in the pores and in the many joints of the coal have, by reason of their expansive force, a tendency to cause these pores to burst out and split open the fragments in contact. The resistance opposed to this expansion is, as has been said before, generally variable, and depends on the degree of agglomeration resulting from the number, extent, and disposition of the joint in the coal, and on the disposition of the face in relation to these joints. As soon as the gas pressure overcomes the resistance of the seam, phenomena of sudden expansion may take place. A block of coal in which the pressure is greater than the internal resistance must necessarily disintegrate violently as soon as a face or breast reaches it. This carbonaceous mass, impregnated with gas, undergoes an abrupt increase in volume and produces more or less violent mechanical effects proportionate to the quantity of gas liberated. In certain cases the disintegration is only partial, hence the numerous differences depending on the circumstances accompanying or resulting from the gas outbursts. As far as the author knows the Morrissey mine would offer very interesting instances of such bursts, whatever their causes might be.—Science and Art of Mining.

## HE PAINTED FOR PEACE

By Clarence Darrow

Verstchagin painted war; he painted war so true to life that as we look upon the scene we long for peace.

He painted war as war has been and as war will ever be—a horrible and ghastly scene where men drunk with blind frenzy, which rulers say is patriotic pride, and made mad by drums and fifes and smoke and shot and shell and flowing blood, seek to maim and wound and kill, because a ruler gives the word. He paints a battlefield, a field of life, and death, a field of carnage and of blood, and who are these that fight like fiends and devils driven to despair?

What cause is this that makes these men forget that they are men, and vie with beasts to show their cruel thirst for blood? They shout of home and native land, but they have no homes, and the owners of their native land exist upon their toil and blood. The nobles and princes for whom this fight is waged are far away upon a hill beyond the reach of shot and shell, and from this spot they watch their slaves pour out their blood to satisfy their rulers' pride and lust of power.

What is the enemy they fight? Men like themselves, who blindly go to [illegible] command, [illegible] give their toil or blood, whichever one their rulers may demand. These fighting soldiers have no cause for strife, but their rulers live by kindling in them such a love of native land—a love that makes them hate their brother laborers of other lands, and humbly march to death to satisfy a king's caprice.

But let us look once more after the battle has been fought. Here we see the wreck and ruin of the strife; the field is silent now given to the dead, the beast of prey and night. A young soldier lies upon the ground; the snow is falling fast around his form; the lonely mountain peaks rise up on every side; the wreck of war is all about. His uniform is soiled and stained, a spot of red is seen upon his breast. It is not the color that his country wove upon his coat to catch his eye and bait him to his death; it is hard and jagged and cold. It is his life's blood, which leaked out through a hole that followed the point of a saber to his heart. His form is stiff and cold, for he is dead. The cruel wound and icy air have done their work.

The government that took his life taught this poor boy to love his native land; as a child he dreamed of scenes of glory and of power and the great wide world just waiting to fall captive to his magic strength. He dreamed of war and strife, of victory and fame; if he should die kind hands would smooth his brow, and loving hearts would keep his grave and memory green, because he died in war. But no human eye is there at last, as the mist of night and mist of death shut out the bloody mountains from his sight. The snow is all around and the air is grey with falling flakes, which soon will hide him from the world; and when the summer time shall come again none can tell his bleaching bones from all the rest. The only life upon the scene is the buzzard slowly circling in the air above his head, waiting to make sure that death has come. The bird looks down upon the boy, into the eyes through which he first looked out upon the great wide world and which his mother fondly kissed; upon these eyes the buzzard will commence his meal.


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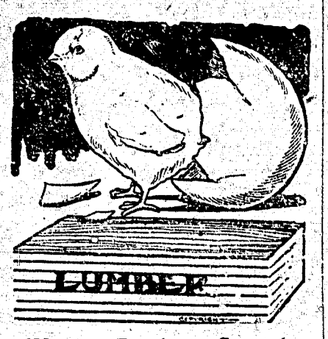


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# Economic Justification For Use of Electric Power In Collieries

(Presidential address delivered Oct. 3, before the Annual Meeting of the Association of Mining Electrical Engineers, vide Iron and Coal Trades Review.)

The question as to how far the use of electric power in old collieries is economically sound is an interesting one, which has not so far been extensively discussed, though, as we are all aware, an enormous amount of such has already been done. Though no doubt in many cases those responsible have made very careful investigation before putting such work in hand, there are others who have simply followed the fashion and perhaps found themselves in the long run worse off than at the beginning.

In the case of new collieries where a reliable supply of cheap electric power is available and there is no waste heat from coke ovens to be utilised, engineers generally are agreed that the most efficient plant is the electrically-driven one, but the case of the older existing collieries, where the plant is at present driven entirely by steam, is a very much more complex problem, and ought to be approached very warily before coming to a definite decision.

Prior to the introduction of the low-pressure exhaust-steam turbine, and its later development the mixed pressure steam turbine, many colliery engineers aware of the extravagance in steam consumption of the non-condensing winding engine, had attempted to operate their winding engines condensing; but on the whole this was not a success, due largely to the fact that the makers of these condensing plants designed them to deal with the average flow of steam from the engines rather than providing sufficient capacity to deal with the maximum rate of exhaust from the engines. The non-condensing steam winding engine was accordingly looked upon as a necessary though useful evil.

At this stage engineers had recognized the value of electric power for many colliery purposes, and many installations were put down, driven by high-speed engines or high-pressure steam turbines, or even slow-speed engines. These installations were found to be useful and economical on the whole, and the use of electric power in collieries began to grow rapidly for all auxiliary service, such as lighting, pumping, secondary haulages, screen driving, and general surface work.

But the introduction of the low pressure and mixed-pressure steam turbine gave the use of electric power in collieries the incentive necessary to ensure its almost universal adoption. Engineers recognized very quickly that by the aid of this type of turbine the non-condensing steam winding engine could be converted into a comparatively efficient machine and cheap electric power provided for practically all colliery purposes, with the result that today there are fairly numerous cases where the power obtained from the energy remaining in the steam which is exhausted from the non-condensing winding engines, is sufficient not only to provide for all auxiliary requirements of individual collieries, but to provide a surplus from a group of pits to drive another pit wholly by electric power, including the winding engines.

The same applies to some extent to the gas engine using waste gases from by-product coke-oven plants. Prior to the introduction of the by-product coke oven, the beehive ovens in use at many collieries provided only waste heat, which was utilized in boilers which raised steam for winding, and general colliery purposes, but the new by-product ovens not only provided waste heat but a considerable surplus quantity of such gas. Most collieries simply use this surplus gas as an aid to steam raising by burning it under the boilers, but others have installed electric-power plants driven by gas engines, which operate by this surplus gas. As the power generated in such plants is also cheap, the use of electric power in collieries has received a further stimulus by such installations.

During the initial fight which electric power as a new thing had to make in common with all other new things or ideas, the principal point urged against its use was its unreliability. The steam engine was then a highly developed and simple machine, and in the event of anything going wrong with it it was nearly always a mechanical failure which could be repaired by almost anyone, but such failures were few, and so long as the engine was supplied with steam and oil it worked. Even if it were uneconomical, it was reliable. The electric motor, on the other hand, was regarded as a contrivance made up of a bundle of copper wires, with pieces of tape and string insulation which could not be made into something mechanically sound, so that there was bound to be mechanical failure, and if not mechanical failure, then failure due to the mechanical weakness of the insulation. Then, as electricians were few, the cost of repairs was high, and the time required long, with heavy consequent loss due to the stoppage.

Such were the arguments used against the use of electric power, and so successfully were they that while the use of electric power progressed owing to its many advantages, the custom grew up of providing not only the machine required, but spare parts sufficient almost to make a second machine. Today the reliability of electrical plant is scarcely ever questioned, and a reference to the reports of the insurance companies will show that the electric motor has as good a record of freedom from breakdown as the steam engine. The "spare part" custom has, to a large extent, disappeared, though in the case of very important machines the small cost involved in stocking a supply of spare parts is a very small premium to pay against loss due to a stoppage.

It may be taken, then, that so far as reliability is concerned, the use of electric power in collieries is thoroughly justified. Turning now to the question of safety, here there is much greater diversity of opinion, not only amongst colliery men, but amongst engineers themselves, and it lies very largely in the hands of the members of this Association not only to prove it is safe in colliery work, but to make it so.

It has been the custom now for some time, on every occasion when there has been an expolsion or fire in a colliery, for opponents of the use of electricity in collieries to lay the blame for the accident on the electrical plant, if there was any in the mine, but it is only in one or two cases that the charge has been brought home, and even then the primary cause lay elsewhere. Further, it might exen be said that in such cases the accident was not due to the use of electricity, but to the use of defective apparatus, or apparatus unsuitable for the place and work.

So far as the surface is concerned, there is no question as to the safety of electrical apparatus as regards fire or human life. Indeed, as regards fire risk, the insurance companies actually charge a lower premium for insuring certain buildings when electricity is used for lighting than for any other artificial light, and in no case do they demand a higher premium where electric light is used. Thus the risk of fire on the surface, due to the use of electricity, may be put on one side as quite negligible. On the other hand, the risks to human life are no greater in a well-installed and well-looked-after electric installation at a colliery than on a street along which runs an electric tramway fed from overhead line, or in a modern electrically-driven factory, of which there are thousands in this country in which there have been practically no accidents of this kind.

The principal risk lies of course underground, but if full advantage is taken of modern information, methods and precaution, this risk can be greatly minimised, if not wholly obviated.

In many mines there are places where, due to the continuous presence of gas, electrical apparatus ought not to be installed, and there are other places where, though normally gas is not present, at any time gas may be found. It is for the colliery managers and their advisers—that is, the members of this Association—to put into such places electrical apparatus which is not only safe under normal circumstances, but also under these abnormal conditions.

What risks there are in the use of electricity, whether on the surface or underground, seem to be associated chiefly with switchgear, due perhaps to carelessness on the part of the manufacturers or the users. Many look on switchgear as unimportant accessories, and while they will take every care with the cables and transmission arrangements and the motors, and see that they are respectively of the safest and most suitable kind for the work they have to do and the place they have to work in, they do not take corresponding precautions with the switchgear.

Finally, there is the point of view of economy, by which is meant, perhaps, more the justification on economic grounds of the use of electric power in collieries, including in its scope the utilization of waste heat, gases and exhaust steam; electric winding, hauling, pumping, and fan driving; the use of electric lamps, etc.

It is not a long time since it appeared to be a matter of indifference at many collieries whether the coal consumption for their own purposes at the pits was 2 per cent. or 10 per cent. of the output but with increasing competition, increased cost due to legislation, decreased working hours and increased wages, great attention is being paid to every means by which savings may be effected. Now, if the average total power costs at all the collieries in the country be taken at 10 per cent. of their total costs, it is evident that a small reduction in this figure means a very considerable saving in the course of a year, and while small savings may be effected in various ways, the colliery owners recognize that the principal savings are to be effected by utilizing the various by-products which they have hitherto allowed to go to waste or be utilized inefficiently.

The main by-product at the average existing colliery is undoubtedly the steam exhausted by the main engines such as the winding engines, fan engines, and air-compressor engines, and while no doubt a considerable saving can be effected by installing a suitable condensing plant to deal with the exhaust steam from these engines, a very much greater benefit can be got by utilizing the same steam in low pressure or mixed-pressure steam turbines. The saving effected in steam consumption by condensing may be taken at 25 per cent., and by utilizing the exhaust in low pressure or mixed-pressure turbines at 45 per cent., which in itself shows a very considerable gain in favor of the steam turbine, and more than sufficient to pay for the extra capital involved in the turbines.

At present there are only two practical ways in which the power generated by turbines can be utilized—(1) in driving turbo-air-compressors, and (2) in driving electric generators—the geared turbine is not taken into account, as it is not sufficiently developed from the experimental stage to be of much interest in colliery work—and of these two ways we can really only take account of the second, because of the inefficiency of the turbo air-compressor, even in large sizes of say 7,500 cub. feet. per minute and upwards. Collieries, then, which desire to make the most efficient use of their principal by-product—exhaust steam—are driven to the use of electrical power.

All engineering is a matter of compromise, and it is not often that in a compromise we obtain so many of the advantages we would desire, as are found in the turbine-driven electric generating plant. Some of these may be mentioned: (1) High speed, which carries with it (2) low capital cost of plant, buildings, and foundations; (3) high efficiency; (4) simplicity and ease of operation. It may be claimed then that the installation of mixed-pressure turbo-generating plant at collieries is justified on economic grounds, as the most suitable and convenient means for utilizing the waste by-product—exhaust steam.

Invariably in an existing steam-driven colliery, the various installations of machinery are operated by small independent steam engines, which are supplied with steam from the central boiler plant. This involves an extensive system of steam pipes in which, on account of losses due to friction and condensation, the transmission efficiency is not high; also owing to the expansion and contraction of the pipes and the presence of condensed steam, joints leak and give trouble, which means loss of efficiency in the transmission and expense for labor necessary to remake the pipe joints. The transmission efficiency then, even of the best steam pipe installations, is not high, and if the average be taken at 85 per cent., the error will not be on the low side.

In an electric transmission the only loss is that due to the resistance which the conductor offers to the flow of the current, and as that is usually limited to 5 per cent. of the power transmitted, even in longer transmissions than is practicable with steam pipes, an electric transmission is more efficient than a corresponding steam transmission.

Further, the capital cost and maintenance of an electric transmission system are less than those of a similar steam system, so that the transmission of power in the form of electricity as against steam and similarly compressed air, is justified from every point of view.

Turning now to the machines in which the power is utilized we find, particularly in collieries, the steam or air engines in use are small simple engines; they work under bad conditions, so that their efficiency is low 60 per cent. is a high average figure and this does not refer to the amount of heat theoretically required, but to the theoretical amount of steam required. They are invariably reciprocating machines, and have to convert their motion by means of heavy and awkward moving parts into the rotary form in which it is required.

What is the efficiency of the average electric motor? Certainly not less than 85 per cent., and as this refers to actual consumption of current compared with the theoretical consumption, the use of electric motors is fully justified on the ground of efficiency alone. There are, however, other factors which add to the economic attractiveness of the electric motor, and when these are taken into consideration the case for the electric motor is overwhelming. For practically every purpose about a colliery motive power is required in the rotary form, and the electric motor gives this rotary motion direct without the intervention of connecting rods or cranks. This permits the use of direct-coupled high-speed machines, which, though in themselves perhaps not as efficient as slow speed reciprocating machines, are cheap, occupy little space, require no foundation or attention, and cost little to maintain.

So far, no account has been taken of the question of the capital locked up in the existing steam generating, distributing, and utilizing plant at existing collieries, which in the event of conversion to electric power must be scrapped, and it is obvious that before the conversion to electric drive can be justified on economic grounds, this must be fully considered and taked into account. This does not arise, of course, in the case of new collieries, but it may be mentioned in passing that in the case of one or two new collieries, though no data are as yet available from actual experience, the case of complete electrical operation is so strong on paper that the owners have felt justified in putting down the necessary power station with high-pressure steam turbines to generate the power required to operate electrically the whole of the plant at the collieries from the winding engines downwards. The whole case for such an installation rests on the fact that the coal consumption per ton of coal raised with the combination of steam turbine and electrically-driven winder can do, that the extra capital expenditure is fully justified on economic grounds. The perfecting of the big gas engine will, of course, accelerate such a change as the gasifying of coal in regenerative coke ovens or producers, and with recovery of by-products, making such a system extremely attractive.

Reverting to the case of the existing colliery with its steam plant, there are boilers, steam pipes and steam engines to be taken into consideration, as well perhaps in some cases as the machinery driven by the steam engines which may be unsuitable for conversion to electric driving. In a well-conducted colliery these will, of course, have been depreciated, and may stand today in the books at half their original cost. If then a scheme of electric power generation and electric driving is under consideration, the capital value of the plant to be scrapped, less scrap value, must be added to the scheme, and in estimating the running costs of the electric power there must be added the sum annually required not only to depreciate the new plant, but also the existing plant to be scrapped.

It is obvious from what has been said earlier that the first result to be anticipated from the conversion to electric drive is a reduction in the demand for steam, whether the power is generated in high pressure steam engines or turbines, gas engines, or mixed pressure steam turbines; consequently the number of boilers in use can be reduced. The result is not only a saving in coal and labor, but also in the repairs bill. Because usually at collieries the repairs bill on the boiler plant is the heaviest item of all, taking into consideration the capital involved. On an average, in cases where the electric power is generated in mixed pressure steam turbines utilising the exhaust steam from the winding engines and air compressors, and where all other machinery is driven by electric motors, the reduction in the number of boilers in use amounts to at least 40 per cent.

If now the cost of running the average Lancashire boiler at a colliery be taken at only £850 per annum—to include coal, water, labor, repairs and depreciation—on an installation consisting of 12 boilers, the saving effected in the course of a year by reducing this number by 40 per cent. will permit the shutting down of five boilers, which in the case of the usual colliery may be taken to represent 700 to 750 h.p. If we take it that for each h. p. in motors one kw. is required in the generating station, the capacity of the generating set of the mixed pressure type will be 750 k.w., the capital cost of which, including piping, buildings, transmission, switchgear, and motors will be approximately £12,000.

The saving effected by cutting off five boilers at £850 per annum each will be £4,250, which is sufficient not only to provide interest and depreciation on the plant scrapped, but to provide interest and depreciation on the electrical plant and leave a profit as well.

Everything then points to the continually increasing use of electricity and electrical apparatus in collieries, until practically it will become the sole prime mover. There is accordingly an enormous field before us, and with it the serious responsibility of advising colliery owners as to how these changes may be made to the best advantage. Let us as members of the Association of Mining Electrical Engineers show in a practical way at our daily work, by keeping abreast of the rapid developments in our science, by continuous study, by reading of papers and discussions at our meetings, that we are alive to our responsibilities and duties.

Shiloh's Cure

STOPS COUGHS

A POSITIVE CURE FOR RHEUMATISM

Hundreds of People Have Found "Fruit-a-tives" Their Only Help

READ THIS LETTER

Superintendent of Sunday School in Toronto Tells How He Cured Himself of Chronic Rheumatism After Suffering for Years.

55 DOVERCOURT ROAD, Oct., 1st. 1913.

"For a long time, I have thought of writing you regarding what I term a most remarkable cure effected by your remedy "Fruit-a-tives". I suffered from Rheumatism, especially in my hands. I have spent a lot of money without any good results. I have taken "Fruit-a-tives" for 18 months now, and am pleased to tell you that I am cured. All the enlargement has not left my hands and perhaps never will, but the soreness is all gone and I can do any kind of work. I have gained 35 pounds in 18 months".

R. A. WAUGH

Rheumatism is no longer the dreaded disease it once was. Rheumatism is no longer one of the "incurable diseases". "Fruit-a-tives" has proved its marvellous powers over Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago—in fact, over all such diseases which arise from some derangement of stomach, bowels, kidneys or skin.

"Fruit-a-tives" is sold by all dealers at 50c. a box, 6 for $2.50, trial size, 25c. or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

Why Zam-Buk is Best Cure for Skin Sores

An illustration of the way in which Zam-Buk cures even the most serious and chronic cases of ulcers, eruptions and sores is provided by Mr. R. H. Barker, of Glencairn, Ont. He says:

"I would not have believed that any remedy could cure so quickly, and at the same time so effectively, as Zam-Buk cured me.

"My face became covered with a kind of rash, which itched and irritated. This rash then turned to sores, which discharged freely and began to spread. I first tried one thing and then another, but nothing seemed to do me any good, and the eruption got worse and worse, until my face was just covered with running sores.

"Apart from the pain (which was very bad), my face was such a terrible sight that I was not fit to go out. This was my state when some one advised me to try Zam-Buk. I got a supply, and, marvellous as it may sound, within little under a month every sore on my face was healed. I was so amazed that I have told the facts to several persons, and I have no objection to your stating my experience for the benefit of other sufferers."

Zam-Buk is purely herbal in composition, and is the ideal balm for babies and young children, for whose tender skin coarse ointments are so dangerous. Zam-Buk is a sure cure for cold sores, chapped hands, frost bite, blood-poison, varicose sores, piles, scalp sores ringworm inflamed patches, babies' eruptions and chapped places, cuts, burns, bruises and skin injuries generally. All druggists and stores sell at 50c. box, or post free from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, upon receipt of price. Refuse harmful substitutes.

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quickly stops coughs, cures colds, and heals the throat and lungs. :: :: 25 cents.

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# The District Ledger

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F. H. NEWNHAM, Editor-Manager.

Telephone No. 48 Post Office Box No. 380


## UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE "BACK TO THE LAND" SOLUTION

All wealth owes its source to labor, and labor can produce wealth from only one source—the land. This is an indisputable fact, and an iron-bound one at that. Some may claim that their wealth is derived from manufactures, others that their incomes are derived from the sea, while with the introduction of aeroplane factories, we shall expect to hear investors claiming that their wealth is derived from the air. But to all the land is indispensable for it produces the sustenance upon which we exist. *From no other sources* are the necessaries of life obtained. Scientists and fiction writers claim that in the future we may draw our sustenance from the oxygen in the air, but even they will have to admit that without the land we should cease to have oxygen. So the basic foundation of man's life and existence is the land; nothing else. This in the first and last analysis.

Such being the case, why is it that we find so many ready to scoff at the oft suggested solution to unemployment and poverty—viz., "back to the land"? The scoffers are not all ignoramuses, for they are invariably men who have studied our social conditions and become thoroughly disgusted with not the land, but the conditions under which we propose to put the people back on the land.

"Back to the land" is the only possible solution to poverty, unemployment and the numerous other ills that beset society, for with the people on the land they will be able to supply all their requirements. A very bold statement, you think? Not at all; a statement of fact.

Many will immediately remark that we can't all go on the land; to which we reply: We shall not all require to go on the land. Those on the land must produce for those off the land, and those off the land must manufacture for those on the land.

Sounds simple, doesn't it; and you heard it so often. But ask yourself: What are the first requirements of the people out of employment today? Work? No! Food! "Ah!" exclaims our opponent, "we always knew the Socialists did not want work!" And before we venture any further it is just as well to assure him that we do not love work, and if we could live without work—i.e., on fat dividends—we would not work.

Food is the first requirement of the unemployed today, but to get that food they know they must work. The earth brings forth just so much but no more; nature in her bounty will give, and give generously, but man must do his share.

This, however, does not answer the question: "How will 'back to the land' prevent unemployment and avert poverty?" Simply by permitting the individual to provide for his own requirements. Man must produce for consumption and not to lay up surplus product that may be used to extort profit. If we had but one-third of the people of this Dominion on their own farms today we should not have any unemployment to content with. But we have not one-third of the people on their own farms, and we have unemployment.

I can readily understand that many will immediately take exception to this statement, and will remind me that the government has been compelled to go to the assistance of the farmers in Southern Alberta and has spent something like two million dollars in relief. This is quite true, and when we recall some of the "farm lands" we have seen sold by the various land speculators, we only wonder that the government does not have to spend this amount every year!

Well, we will tell you the great secret: "Back to the land" will solve all our ills—provided we get back under different conditions to those at present prevailing! The idea of solving the question of poverty by cultivating the land is as old as the land itself, no doubt, but it's worth very little so long as you expect men to go back under our present conditions. To sell a man a stone quarry and expect him to pay $50 per acre, buy machinery and raise weeds for he can do little more, is not sending him "back to the land." To sell a man land at enhanced value in a district as dry as Sahara and expect him to raise wheat is like trying to raise a frost in Hell.

Of course, I will grant you that the person who is going on the same amount know what is good and what is bad land, but let me ask you a question: What do you expect the vairous ministers of Agriculture to do, both Dominion and Provincial? If they did their duty, or if they were not in the land business themselves, do you not think it would be their duty to stop the shameless advertising of "farm lands" in a district that they know only too well is most unsuited for agricultural purposes? The government will prosecute a man who sells you paste for diamonds; they will imprison and fine a man who sells bad meat, but they have winked at the sale of useless farm lands, and their winking has cost them nearly two million dollars so Mr. Mitchell told those present at the Labor Commission in Calgary. Of course he did not put it quite so raw as that, for Mr. Mitchell is a politician.

This same gentleman, however, might claim that if the weather had been propitious, the crops would have been O.K., but the unfortunate part of it is the weather persists, year after year, in playing the same old tricks, and the soil is so light that if there is a good shower, no one is aware of it two hours later. And as a result of selling this bad land, and then permitting others to sell to the "suckers," the government is paying the tidy little sum of two millions.

Do not think, however, that there may not have been other factors at work to impoverish the farmer, for he may have had hard luck in the shape of sickness, loss of stock, and hundreds of other things. We have only quoted one reason—viz., the sale of land not suited for farming. But one can excuse the worker if he jeers at "back to the land" when we have politicians telling us in one sentence that the farmers in the north are most prosperous, and then stating that the government has spent two million dollars in relieving homesteaders in the south, that we ventured to do a little explaining.

However educated and intelligent you may consider yourself, however, there is one thing that you must recognize: To put the worker on the land means that he will be able to secure a living—provided it is land and not a rock pile—of some kind; for he has the means. No matter how poor his physique nor how mean his tools, he has in the land the basic means of procuring sustenance.

The bulk of the land in this Dominion—i.e., the best land—is held for speculation, for advancement in price! Small taxes are paid by the holders for this privilege, but they are small. Now, suppose we attack this "privilege"—just the same as the old country attacked the privilege of those who thought they could hold sugar, wheat and other staples and sell at fancy prices—and introduce sumptuary legislation that will force these people to cultivate their land or quit claim? Truly a very bold suggestion and one that may not appeal to those ministers and politicians who have been in the land game so long. But we will compel them to use the land or permit others to settle thereon and cultivate same. The settler might be permitted the same generous treatment as the Irish farmer receives, a twenty or thirty year purchase, while the owner might be given the option of reclaiming the land provided he paid all taxes and reimbursed the settler for his labors. This is not a revolutionary measure, neither is it original, for a law very similar has been on the statute books of New Zealand for some twenty years, we believe.

True, again, this will not satisfy the immediate requirements of the unemployed, but there are large tracts of land in this province where the men could work all the year round, while the government would be advancing money (exactly as the governments of New Zealand and Australia have done) on real value. Once this land was cleared it would increase in value, and the government would, with the settler, be reimbursed.

Two million dollars would keep quite a respectable crowd of settlers on land for the winter, and would certainly prove a more profitable venture than providing seed and relief for homesteaders on land that they cannot raise even a mortgage on.

Then this is the solution: That a large proportion of society must go back to the land; that they must own the land and produce for consumption; that it will not be sufficient if those who own the machinery of manufacture and distribution do not also produce for use and not for profit—in short, production and distribution must be owned collectively and for the benefit of humanity, and not as at present to enrich the few by the exploitation of the many. This is Socialism, but nothing less will be permanently effective in curing the social evils so painfully evident today. But, Mr. Reader, do not scoff or jeer too frequently at the "Back to the Land" solution, for the land is our heritage and we must get possession of this to make a beginning.—Quod erat demonstrandum.

## RUSSIA IS STILL RUSSIA

It is indeed strange that he who has been a very vile creature in the past, charged with committing practically all the crimes in the calendar should, in a few brief months, have undergone a most remarkable conversion and become an examplar of all that is noble and virtuous. A plentiful plastering of whitewash is being furnished by those individuals whose line of action may be summed up as follows: If he's not with us he's against us, therefore let's condemn him without the slightest hesitation but . . . if he's with us then we ought to give him a clean bill of health for all his present, past and even his future misdoings." This seems to be the spirit of many writers when discussing Russia. If we are to accept the dictum of one Coast writer we may expect to see an exodus of some of our Western Ontario farmers to the magnificent wheat-growing region in Siberia where the conditions (according to this writer) are very similar to those that are found in Western Ontario. If this statement were correct, then truly sympathy should be shown to the agriculturalist of Eastern Canada, if, in order to find a parallel to his condi- [illegible]

How much more manly and how much nearer to the truth it would be to say: "As an ally Russia is of material benefit; with her policy internally we [illegible] it is not politic to say or do anything that might offend the powers that control the land of the Czar; neither do we intend to eulogise her solely because she has joined forces with Britain and France, realizing that she is actuated in doing so by the vision so long dreamed—the acquisition of Constantinople and a free entry through the Bosphorus becoming a verity."

There is a proverb which runs, "Scratch a Russian and you will find a Tartar."

Certain changes in form have taken place within the past few years, but in substance the difference is so slight as to be a very inappreciable quantity as the known records of Forts St. Paul and Schusselburg continue to reveal. The request of the Socialist members in the Duma for the concession of an amnesty to political prisoners is collateral evidence that men are still in durance vile for the offence (!) of daring to think aloud. It is scarcely necessary to add that the request was not conceded.

We have stated that there have been changes in form; to give a brief resume we think a propos.

After the disastrous collapse of Russia's encounter with the army and navy of the Mikado in 1905, a panicky feeling prevailed throughout the Muscovite's domains, dissatisfaction was rampant everywhere, in many places there was open revolt. Consequently something was necessary in order to abate the possibility of the revolutionary spirit becoming universal throughout the country. The machinery was soon at work to stem the rising tide, and in May of 1906 the First Duma opened its sessions in St. Petersburg (now Petrograd), but fearing that the cure was likely to be worse than the disease, owing to the dangerous (!) men who had obtained entry into what was intended to be a party of lauds and praises to the magnanimity of the "Little Father," it was dissolved by a ukase (edict) of that individual after a short and stormy two month's existence. Another Duma was convened in March of 1907, but again a number of those wicked (!) subversionists had frustrated the well-laid plan of the bureaucrats by gaining admission to this otherwise "respectable" aggregation of parliamentarians (!) and for this reason alone the Second Duma was dismissed in June the same year. The reason for which was their failure to exclude a group of Social Democrats who were charged with a conspiracy of plotting against the Czar. The Third Duma met in November, 1907, but the number of representatives was largely decreased by the application of considerable restrictive measures as to whom the franchise should be allowed. This prohibited all Poles, as well as the "lower orders of nationalities" other than Russian from exercising the right of suffrage, also practically disfranchised the peasantry. It is claimed that there have been some reforms granted through the efforts of the present Duma in the Siberian exile system, but even on this point there is a divergence of opinion judging by one Davos, a Russian writer, exiled in Switzerland.

"The mountain labored and brought forth a mouse." It may be a long way to Tipperary, but it is a still farther distance to Russian conditions that would induce a Western Ontario farmer to trek to the new wheat fields of Manchuria as an improvement to his present surroundings.

### PROGRAM

Fernie Philharmonic Society Concert

At the Isis Theatre, Sunday Nov. 15
8.45 p.m.

March—"Bruxelles Exhibition" J. Demaele.
Waltz—"Blue Danube" Johann Strauss
Overture—"Light Cavalry" Chas. J. Roberts
Japanese Patrol with National Air Moses-Tobani
Vocal solo—By Mr. G. H. Stevenson, Cranbrook, specially secured for the occasion.
Selection—"Chocolate Soldier" Oscar Strauss
Polka—"Pizzicato" Leo. Delibes
Spanish Waltz—"Belles of Seville" J. Bodewalt Lampe
March—"A Frangesa" Mario Costa
"God Save the King"
Proceeds for Local Relief Committee

### RETURN THANKS

The Ladies Benevolent Society wish to thank the officials and clerical staff working at Coal Creek for their donation of $54.00. Also the baseball teams, who donated $3.20.

J. H. Johnson, Sec.

### CANADIAN COAL & COKE CO., Ltd. Re KIPP MINE

### COMPLAINT AS TO SCREENING

(Continued from Page One)

The complaint arises under the following circumstances. In the agreement relating to this mine it is clear from that document that the miners are to be paid on a "screened coal" basis. When the screen was first made use of, it appears that the coal to be screened had to pass through a chute leading to the screen, and it was found that owing to the angle of the chute and the screen, the coal passed over the screen so rapidly and with such force as break up the coal, thus filling the weigh-pan with a considerable amount of waste, which was not marketable. To obviate this loss to the company, cleats were put in the chute so as to retard the rapidity and force of the passage of the coal into the weigh-pan. There is no reason in our opinion why the company should not make use of the cleats, particularly as they have not altered the standard gauge of the screen nor affected its operating in the same way as other screens in other mines where screens are used.

Our decision therefore is, that the Company have not violated the agreement by the action complained of.

Dated at Calgary this 31st October, 1914.

W. Roland Winter, Chairman,
W. F. McNeil, Commissioner
Western Coal Operators' Asso.
Dmc. Coll. Hardie (witness)

### BANKHEAD MINES NEW WORK

The appliction for a scale of contract prices is made by the General Superintendent of the Company in pursuance of the provisions under the head of "New Work" in the agreement are to be GOVERNED by existing prices in the same mine or some other mine in the neighborhood. It appears that there are no mines of the same character in the neighborhood to assist the committee in coming to a decision.

The seam most resembling Seam No. 0000 is No. 0 Seam of the Bankhead Mine. Under the circumstances the undersigned members of the committee have fixed the scale annexed hereto, as most analogous to the prices prevailing in No. 0 Seam, but which are generally higher than those of that or any other seam in the neighborhood.

Dated at Calgary, this 31st October, 1914.

W. Roland Winter, Chairman,
W. F. McNeil, Commissioner
Western Coal Operators' Asso.
Dmc. Coll. Hardie (witness)

**Specifications—Bankhead Mines No. 0000**

**Gangway—**

Single timber lagged, 8 feet high, 12 feet wide at level of rail, including timbering, handling of coal, digging ditch, laying track; rock or refuse to be gobbed or leaded separately, $13.50 per lineal yard.

**Counter Gangway—**

10 feet wide, inside timber and height of seam, $3.50 per lineal yard, including single timber lagged.

**Chutes—**

(Between Main and Counter Gangways). 10 feet wide and height of seam, $5.00 per lineal yard, including timbering, building of chute, brattice, ladderway and laying of sheet iron.

**Breasts—**

(Up pitch). 20 feet wide by height of seam, $6.00 per lineal yard including timbering, building of brattice and chute, ladderway and laying sheet iron. The coal to be put into chute [illegible] and the coal forked if required.

**Cross-cuts—**

(Between Breasts). 10 feet wide inside of timber by height of seam, $3.00 per lineal yard, including single timber lagged [illegible] gobbed if required.

**Pillars—**

(10 feet wide) $6.67 per lineal yard, including timbering, building chute, and taking up old chute in breast. The coal to be put into chute and stack and refuse to be gobbed. The coal to be forked if required.

The above prices are based on the seam being 2½ feet to be paid for proportionately, except in Main Gangways.

W. Roland Winter, Chairman
Dmc. Coll. Hardie (witness)

### TO CORRESPONDENTS

For the twentieth time we wish to inform anonymous correspondents that we consign their contributions to the wastepaper basket. If they have not sufficient faith in our integrity to favor us with their name and address, we for our part have not sufficient faith in the truth of their assertions to publish them. This is not to be taken as an admission that any communication containing a name and address will receive publication, but it is to state positively that we will not publish communications unless they are accompanied by the name and address of sender.

Saturday matinee and evening, also Monday night, at the Orpheum, "European Armies in Action" will be shown. These pictures are not "actual war pictures," but are two reels of splendid pictures of the armies and navies now battling for world supremacy.

Don't forget the Mother's meeting Wednesday, Nov. 18, from 3 to 5 p.m. Miss Lamont will tell mothers how to take care of children. There will be good music provided as well as tea. All mothers are welcome.

W. A. Oswald, assistant censor and inspector of moving pictures for the province of British Columbia was in the city Tuesday. Two of the picture houses were found O.K., while the third, will, with a few modifications, be brought up to a like standard.

James Pasta appeared before His Honor Judge Thompson Wednesday at the regular November session of the County Court in answer to the serious charge of living wholly or in part off the proceeds of prostitution. There were five counts in the accusation, but as the evidence adduced on behalf of the crown was insufficient to convict on any one of these counts, accused was discharged.

Two hundred and thirty aliens have reported to the Provincial Police during the month of October, in accordance with the regulations of the militia authorities. Corbin leads with 90, Fernie 68, Canal Flats, 42, and Coal Creek 33.

Four members of a chivare party from Coal Creek appeared before Stipendiary Magistrate Stalker on Wednesday afternoon in answer to a charge of creating a disturbance. The party got possession of a keg of lubrication and proceeded to consume contents. The keg was eventually deposited in the Super's office, and a very heated debate must have ensued as to possession. The arguments resulted in a general disarrangement of fixtures and furniture, which the office employees discovered upon their arrival on Monday morning. A minimum fine of $5 and costs was imposed, but one of the defendants determined to adopt a suffragist attitude and refused to pay the fine, preferring to go to jail. Some four hours and supper in the city hotel, however, produced the desired effect, and the fine was paid.

### DIED

November 7th, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Kastner. Funeral took place on November 8th, Rev. D. M. Perley officiating.

November 8th, Frank John, aged 18 months. Funeral from English church November 11th.

### NOTICE Re SIDEWALKS AND CROSSINGS

Constructed Under By-Law No. 153

A Court of Revision will be held on the Tenth (10th) day of November, 1914, at 7.30 o'clock p.m., at the Council Chamber, City Hall, Fernie, B.C., for the purpose of hearing complaints against the proposed assessment or [illegible] of frontage measurements and any other complaint which persons interested may desire to make and which is by law cognizable by the Court.

Dated at Fernie, B.C., this 9th day of November, 1914

ARTHUR J. MOFFATT,
Clerk.

LOST—On Sept. 7th, Labor Day, a Gold Watch, chain and seal. Any person giving information or returning same to Box 16, Coal Creek, will be reasonably rewarded.

HERE IS A SQUARE DEAL

and peaceful security as well. With a policy in our old line company, you can go off on your vacation or visit the ends of the earth and you know you're secure. The best in

FIRE INSURANCE

is always cheapest, and especially so when it doesn't cost higher. Don't delay about that renewal or about that extra insurance you want but come right in at once and have it attended to.

M. A. KASTNER
SOLE AGENT FOR FERNIE
ALEX BECK BLOCK, :: FERNIE, B. C.

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*BARBER SHOP*
*Baths and Shoe Shine*

*BILLIARD ROOM*
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*Fernie's Leading Picture Theatre*
FIRST IN EVERYTHING WORTH WHILE

FRIDAY NOV. 14th
LUCILLE LOVE,
The Girl of Mystery
SERIES No. 13
A great travalogue series. Famous people and places you read about in Film.

SPECIAL SATURDAY—MATINEE and EVENING
WAR PICTURES
From The Front
THE BATTLE OF LESSEKE—On the Main Road to Antwerp.
Watch the ISIS Every Week for Real War News.

MONDAY
The Great Universal Mystery
The greatest aggregation of moving picture stars ever shown in one picture. THINK OF IT! over 52 of your screen favorites in Colossal Comedy.

SPECIAL WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, November 18th and 19th.
JANE GRAY in the famous romance of Official Washington life
The Little Grey Lady
4 Reels—A drama laid in the Redemption Department of the United States Treasury.

COMING
The British Army and How it is Made and Used
Taken by authority of the War Council and shown by Royal Command—5 Reels.

OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY PICTURES AT THE ISIS

# News of The District Camps

## COAL CREEK NOTES

Since our last issue the mines have worked from 3 p.m. Thursday until 3 p.m. Friday. No. 1 East, B North, and No. 2 mine resumed work at 3 p.m., Monday until 3 p.m. Tuesday.

In our report of the farewell dance held up here last week we mentioned Mr. H. Hewitt as pianist. We wish to correct this and state that Arthur Morrison occupied the position.

Several young men have signed the roster of the 107th Batt.

Hosiah Hewitt has departed for the land of the kangeroo—and strikes.

In spite of the secrecy attached to the wedding of Syd, the coal oil orchestra turned up in full force to meet the local flyer Wednesday and gave a "noisical" welcome to the newly-weds. The band was persistent, and Syd came through. We congratulate the newly married couple and wish 'em all the good things of married life.

Frank Nee is home again from hospital, and although having to use crutches, we are pleased to report that he is recovering rapidly.

Jimmy Yates, of Michel, was in camp Tuesday renewing acquaintances. Jimmy reports a good time with the goats.

The Board of Management of the Club are desirous of again providing the children of the camp with a Christmas tree as formerly. Anyone desirous of contributing towards same is requested to give in their names with amount to Secretary W. R. Puckey.

The annual Christmas tournaments at the Club are now progressing. Splendid prizes offered for billiards, pool, and the various card games.

Word has been received in camp that Corporal Ramshaw, who left this camp with the second contingent, has been chosen for active service, and has left the main body at Victoria.

The Board of Management of Coal Creek Club invite offers from volunteers for essays, lectures, etc., for the benefit of the club members. Those desirous of giving entertainments along these lines are requested to hand in their names with subjects to the secretary.

President Rogers, of Crows Nest Pass Coal Co., was in camp Tuesday.

Visions of brighter days arise with the report of the contracts secured by the Coal Company.

The snow king has made his appearance around here.

Don't forget the HARD TIMES DANCE, November 23rd in the Victoria Hall, Fernie. Tickets $1.00.

There will be a handsome prize for the best representation of "Tired Tim" and "Weary Sue" at the Hard Times Dance on the 23rd.

Don't forget the usual monthly concert to be held in the Methodist church Tuesday next. Admission 10c. All will assist kindly give their names in to the Rev. Stoodley before Monday evening.

The relief committee have relieved several cases of dire distress this week.

The Wednesday evening talks by the pastor of the Methodist Church are greatly appreciated.

Coal Creek Methodist Church.—Wednesday, 7.30, "Experiences in the Navy." Thursday, 7, choir practise. Sunday, 2.30, Sunday school and Bible Class. Evening, 7.30, "Whence Came They." Tuesday 17th at 8 p.m., the monthly concert in the church.

## MICHEL NOTES

The third meeting of the Michel-Natal Relief Association was held in the Sample Room of the Great Northern Hotel last Sunday evening, and was largely attended by representatives of both towns. Mr. G. Fisher presided. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. The investigating committee reported relieving 23 families in distress. The finance committee reported having raised through subscriptions, concerts and hard times dances, about $650, and out of this some $500 has, up to date, been expended on relief. As the funds are getting very low, we earnestly request any person who can give anything to help this cause, to send their donations to the secretary treasurer, Mr. J. Wagner, Natal, who will give a receipt for same, or to hand their donations to Mr. Cunliffe and Mr. Murphy, Michel; or Messrs Fraser and Read, Natal. In due time a list of all donations will be published.

Miss Paul, deaconess of the Methodist Church, has organized a ladies' sewing class in conection with the relief committee and at this time they are busy collecting and remodeling clothes for the children. The biggest problem is to get boots for the youngsters to go to school in.

The mines have only worked two single shifts so far this month, and this means a lot more distress to be met in the very near future. Another meeting will be held next Sunday evening at 7.30 in the Great Northern Hotel, when everybody interested is invited to attend.

## HILLCREST NOTES

A number of Hillcrest boys have been initiated in the mytseries of Odd Fellowship at Bellevue lately.

A good number attended the masquerade ball at Bellevue on Monday last and report a fine time.

John Hinds left on a long visit to the old country Monday. We wish him a safe voyage.

At our regular meeting Sunday, Nov. 1st, the secretary pro tem. was requested to post notices calling for an election for local secretary-treasurer at next regular meeting. At the election on Nov. 8th, Mack Stigler was elected by a large majority.

## COLEMAN NOTES

Born—Friday, 6th November, to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Cowan, a daughter. Mother and child doing well.

William and Alfred Ashman, who volunteered for the war sometime ago, seems to have got impatient with the delay at not being called up, consequently they have left for their old homes in Bristol, England, where they think they will stand a better chance of being called upon.

At the regular meeting of Local 2633 it was decided to suspend the sick and accident society until the mine starts up again.

The snooker tournament that has been running for some time in Graham's Pool Room, came to a close the latter end of the week, Vincent Hilling, Joe Quintello, Fred Beddington and Walter Nelson taking the prizes in the order named.

Mr. J. W. Bateman, widow of Joe Bateman, who was fatally injured in Carbondale mine, left Sunday night for her old home in Thurnscoe, Eng.

Tom Merrican and Jack Lawrence returned from Drumheller Sunday morning and report nothing doing.

Mr. J. Wilcocks, the manager of the Co-operative Store, leaves Thursday for a two months' holiday in Winnipeg with his family.

The Literary club had an interesting meeting on Monday evening in the International Church, when Dr. Fawcett gave his experiences and impressions of life in Mexico. Several artists contributed items to an interesting program. A committee was appointed to arrange program for Nov. 30th.

On Sunday morning two girls found a man lying by the roadside two miles west of Coleman. He must have been dead some time, and a razor lying by his side, and an ugly gash in his throat, showed by what means he had met his death. There was nothing by which he could be identified, further than that he had spent Friday night with a rancher a few miles further west, mentioning to him that he had come from the west. Following is a description of deceased: height, 5 ft. 8inches; weight, 140 lbs.; chest, 34½; eyes, blue; good teeth (protruding); hair, brown and wavy; long, hook nose; long features; thin face; was wearing when found, brown coat, pants grey striped; black cap with fur ear flaps; grey sweater; boots, size 7; carrying one pair grey and one pair green blankets. Anyone identifying from description might communicate with Police Barracks, Coleman, Alta.

Mr and Mrs. Louden left on Saturday en route for Scotland.

An interesting presentation took place after lodge business of Sentinel Lodge 25, K. P.'s, when Bro. Thos. Lloyd was presented with a past chancellor's jewel. Bro. J. McKinnon, C.C., made the presentation.

Joe Thomson left Wednesday for Drumheller, where he has accepted the position of fire boss.

Corporal Grant and Constable Pope arrested three Turks, who were going around the town Tuesday collecting for some Greek Church or hospital. They will be held as prisoners of war and were shipped to Macleod.

Mr. Andrews, electrician at the Carbondale Mine, has severed his connection and leaves shortly for the old country. Mr. Lane has taken the vacated position.

## BELLEVUE NOTES

The regular meeting of Local 431 convened as usual with the president in the chair, supported by a large crowd. Correspondence was received from Hadnot & Jones replying to a query of ours, and this reply by the firm was deemed satisfactory. A communication was also received from President Phillips, enclosing recent findings of independent chairman (see "Recent Findings by Independent Chairman" page 1) which affected the entire membership of District 18 and Local 431 in particular. The circular was accepted, and the secretary instructed to write President Phillips for further particulars, and suggesting that he might pay us a visit, this being considered the most satisfactory course for him to pursue. We will assure him that a good attendance will be present.

Reports of Committees—The Pit Committee reported having been in conference with Colin McLeod, company solicitor, and Mr. Ostlund, our solicitor, and that some questions of compensation had been satisfactorily settled, with one exception, and this case has been turned over to the District officials. The committee also reported having done considerable business with the superintendent and his subordinates, chief of which was the case affecting two carpenters, who it was claimed had been dismissed on trumped up charges. The case was eventually amicably settled and the two boys [illegible] Monday, it being understood that no of their work would be contract work, and that they will have to tender along with others, and should their tender be equal to that of others, they will receive the work.

The next matter of importance was the recent decision of the management that the maximum allowance of powder (Monobel) to any one hole was 1 pound. After some discussion it was agreed to send the pit committee to Blairmore before taking any other definite stand. Our visit there in the past have been fairly successful, while the General Manager has expressed the wish that we consult him before we take drastic action. The committee were also instructed to see how the General Manager would regard our proposal to give the single men of a per cent of the work by letting them "cross shift" each other and work week about. The committee were instructed to call a special meeting on their return. They further reported having been to look over a place where the brothers affected had claimed the minimum wage, and stated that they found no abnormalities to exist, but that they had spent a large portion of their time "bucking coal," a condition which the Local has for years endeavored to educate its members against.

New business brought forth the fact that one of our members was financially embarrassed, and as the proposition was a business one, the executive was empowered to negotiate.

Bros. McLeod and Vihanti were appointed as an examining committee which concluded a profitable meeting.

A. J. Carter, was in town last week end.

The mine worked four days last week.

The committee gathered up serviceable clothing for the Belgian refugees

The Bellevue Basket Ball team visited Frank and were successful in defeating the team of that town.

Sunday last being recognized as Temperance Sunday throughout Christendom, the Rev. F. T. Cook preached upon the subject. The rev. gentleman handled the subject very creditably, but like all "reformers" was compelled to use the usual stock arguments of the capitalist class. He concluded by stating that the people of Alberta would have an opportunity next June, when a plebiscite would be taken on the question. If the state goes dry, according to the calculations of most reformers there will be an unprecedented wave of prosperity throughout the whole province. The arguments of some preachers and politians are strangely akin. The only thing that worries us is what has happened in the states that have been "dry" for years and have now decided to go "wet." Either the people of these states are very unappreciative or they have found that the "reformers" had been away off their base.

A meeting was held in the vacant store to discuss the formation of a hockey club.

The management of the Lyric Theatre pulled off a successful masquerade ball on Monday night. The following were among the prize-winners: Miss N. Mitchell, Miss E. Kidd, Mr. G. Welberg, Mr. J. Metcalf. The Bellevue Orchestra provided the music and the judges were J. Burke, Corpl. Meade and Mr. Osborne.

The interior of the Methodist Church presents a very pleasing appearance since being renovated. Weldon Bros. were responsible.

## PASSBURG AND VICINITY

The mining industry here has not improved any, with the exception of No. 4 Seam operated by the Leitch Coal Co., which it has been decided to work.

J. T. Stirling, chief inspector of mines, was here Friday last for the purpose of investigating an accident which occurred here on 22nd ult., when a miner was blown almost to eternity through a misunderstanding between him and the fire boss.

We are pleased to report that J Naso, the miner who met with a serious accident on the 22nd ult., is now out of hospital and improving as well as can be expected.

At a regular meeting of Passburg Local Union, held in Slavok Hall, Monday night, it was decided to appeal to the District and International and also to the Provincial government, for relief during the coming winter owing to the fact that work cannot be found and that the miners are almost [illegible] means of supporting themselves.

Distress is almost indescribable amongst the workers in this camp. Two miners were given twenty-five pounds of flour and one pound of butter about eight days ago and at the same time informed that their credit was stopped. We fully realize that no storekeeper is in a position to supply the unemployed with the necessaries of life unless payment is given, for the storekeepers in this town are only working men themselves. The position that confronts most of the men here is: Starve or break the laws and receive the hospitality of a government institution. We do not want charity if we can be given work, and we most emphatically maintain that it is the duty of the government to come to our assistance at once.

## LETHBRIDGE NOTES

The mines are still running fairly steady, having worked five days last week.

Many men are arriving in camp seeking employment, and their condition, upon arrival, is certainly desperate, having parted with every cent to get here.

J. Larson, Board Member, left last Friday to attend a board meeting in Fernie.

L. Moore, secretary of Local 574, accompanied Mayor Hardie as a delegation from Lethbridge to the conference held in Calgary with representatives from the Federal and Provincial Governments and municipal delegates from the various cities. The conference was called by the Alberta Federation of Labor. A full report of this conference will be found in our columns this week.

Mike Olashaski, of Cardston, a home steader, but formerly a mineworker at Lethbridge, died Thursday, Nov. 5. The interment took place at Staffordville, Rev. Minniwegan officiating. The miners band turned out and paid their last respects to the departed.

## TABER

Working conditions have not improved any since last report. Two days in any one week seems to be the limit at the Canada West.

Superior Mine has been idle the last couple of days owing to a breakdown of the compressor.

Billy McCrea has quit his job at Superior Mines, and gone to Calgary to offer his services to his King and country.

Twenty-five recruits is the number asked for from Taber for the second contingent. So far about twenty have handed in their names.

The regular meeting of the Town Council was held on Tuesday night. The routine business was gone through after which the question of holding a patriotic meeting was discussed. Some members of the council, and some citizens, wanted to organize a Patriotic Fund, as has been done in other towns. The mayor gave as his opinion that any fund collected should be used for local relief, as there were a number of people in town who were in bad circumstances. It was finally decided to call a meeting for Monday night to be held in the Council Chamber.

## BEAVER MINES

The mine here only worked one day last week—Saturday—but as it worked today (Tuesday) we hope to go one better this week.

Perhaps the best barometer of trade (or at least of the weight of the payroll) is the local saloon. Now, as the barometer has read "depression," the captain in charge of the boat has thrown his mate (the genial mixologist "Jake") overboard, but as the boat was still top heavy, some of the female help had to be dispensed with. Jake, being a keen sportsman, is taking revenge out on the game.

The dance at the Pioneer Hall on Friday night was voted a success. Mr. Uldage and Miss D. Sicotte supplied the music.

Bert Beasley, who has been employed as dumpman at the boilers for some months past, pulled out last week. It was Bert's intention to serve his king and country, but as he was a benedict and the supply of single men is more than equal to the demand, there was nothing doing.

Pete Ulbas got the job of dumping.

Pete the Packer wishes to apologize to his friend Mike for having missed the mail this week, but wishes to assure him that it will be in good time for next week's Ledger.

## HELPING OUR SOLDIERS

The following are the donations received:

Mrs. Henderson—2 night shirts.
Thomas Stevenson—16 pillow cases.
Mrs. Woodhouse—stitching 2 nightshirts.
Mrs. T. R. Wallace—1 cap, 1 pair wristlets.
Miss Pirie, Crows Nest 2 belts, 3 pair socks.
Mrs. J. J. Wood—1 belt.
Mrs. Duthie 2 pair socks.
Mrs. R. W. Wood—1 pair wristlets.
Miss Brown—1 pair wristlets.
"Ginger"—6 pair socks.
Mrs. W. R. Wilson—1½ doz. flannel bands, 4 caps, 1 pair socks, 2 pair wristlets.
Miss Hogan—1 pair wristlets.
Miss Pitts—1 pair wristlets.
Mrs. Bonnel—1 pair wristlets.
Miss Ethel Tinkler—1 pair wristlets
Mrs. Lane—1 pair wristlets.
Miss Nash—1 belt
Mrs. Volland—1 belt
Miss Allen—1 cap.
Mrs. Bert Whistle—2 pair wristlets.
Mrs. Prentice—3 pair sox
Miss Edith Boulby—1 pair wristlets.
Mrs. Paton—1 belt.
Mrs. Moffatt—1 belt and 1 cap.
Mrs. Spalding—2 belts 2 pair wristlets.
Mrs Sudsboy, sr.—1 belt, pair wristlets.
Mrs. N. Y. [illegible]—1 belt
Mrs. Barber—1 belt, 1 cap.
A Friend—1 belt, 1 pair wristlets.
Mrs. T. Brown—1 belt.
Mrs. Beck—1 Belt.
Miss McRury—1 pair wristlets
Miss Corsan—1 pair wristlets, 1 cap.
Mrs. Trites—1 belt
Mrs. Stewart—2 belts
Mrs. Wilmott—1 pair wristlets.
Miss Edna Johnson—1 wristlets.
Mrs. Hughes—2 belts.
Anonymous—1 belt, 2 pair wristlets.
Joe Aiello—2 [illegible] pair socks.
Kelsury Bros.—[illegible] doz. pair socks
Sedawie Bros.—2 doz. pair socks.
John Ameer—3 doz. pair socks.
Miss Williams—2 pair wristlets.
Mrs. Donaldson—1 belt, 1 pair kneecaps.
Mrs. Clift—1 belt.
Nurses—4 pair wristlets.
Leo Ping—16 pair socks.
Sing Ching—12 pair socks.
Wong Ying—12 pair socks.
"Boe"—8 pair socks.
Miss Celelia Shulacka—1 pair wristlets.
Mrs. Ramsay—2 pair socks.
Mrs. Gould—1 pair socks, 2 caps.
Mrs. Whimster—1 cap, 1 belt.
Wool donated:
Mrs. Corsan and Mrs. Cummings.
Donations to Mrs. J. J. Wood for wool:
Mr. Bleasdell, Mr. Dukelow, "The Palm," Mr. Ingram, How Foon, N. H. Montgomery, Mr. Fernanais, Mrs. Jennings, Mr. Ambrose, Mr. Miller, Mr. Berrigan, A Friend, Mr. H. Liphardt, Mr. Eschwig, Mr. Gates, A Friend.

Mrs. J. J. Wood will be pleased to teach any one desiring to learn knitting on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 10 o'clock.

The Daughters of the Empire have passed us several interesting letters in connection with their work, and we regret that we are unable to reproduce same this week on account of extra work and pressure on space. Next week we hope to publish these. It is impossible to do otherwise than admire the enthusiasm and sincerity displayed by these ladies in their efforts to provide for the comforts of the soldiers, and we wish them every success.

## PATRIOTIC BALL—STATEMENT

Following is a financial statement showing receipts and disbursements for Patriotic Dance held October 12, 1914:

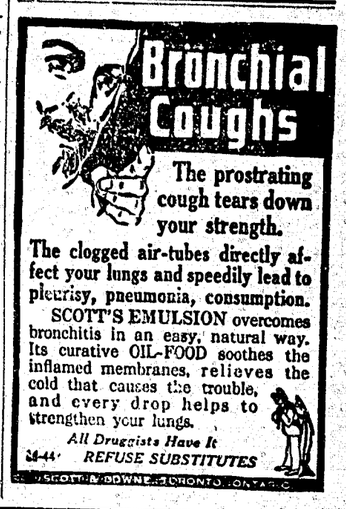
**Receipts**

| | |
|---|---|
| Sale of tickets City and district | $447.50 |
| Sale of tickets at door | 40.40 |
| Cash received at door | 17.00 |
| By sale of Cake | 9.70 |
| Total | $514.60 |

**Disbursemetns**

| | |
|---|---|
| Postage and stationery | $ 1.00 |
| Removing extra chairs | 3.00 |
| Mrs. V. Ely, washing dishes | 5.00 |
| Ladies Benevolent Society for broken dishes | 1.90 |
| Trites-Wood Co, supplies | 2.55 |
| Local Branch Imperial Daughters of Empire | 50.00 |
| Local Branch Canadian Patriotic Fund | 451.15 |
| Total | $514.60 |

Secretary of Dance Committee.
GEO. O'BRIEN.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Call and inspect our complete line of Felt, Leather and Carpet Slippers for men, women and children.
Child's heavy Felt, leather sole, ankle strap Slippers from .35 pair.
Here is your chance to get a bargain. We are offering a large shipment of Travellers' Samples at Factory cost. These include:
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Ladies' and Children's Coats and Sweaters, Addition Caps, and other wool goods
Our Grocery Department is complete with the choicest quality goods
APPLES IN BOXES ..... $1.25 and $1.75
Choice Ontario Apples, ..... $6.50 per barrel
Try a sack of our GOLD SEAL FLOUR, $3.65.
Call on us for Feed Stuffs, Wheat, Shorts, Bran, Oats and Crushed Barley.
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Your appetite is bound to feel the need of something exceptionally tasty and good at this particular season, and being careful about the meat you fancy is an important factor.
Government Inspected Meats
Kept fresh and clean until served on the table is something you should insist on. Don't think that because we give you high grade meat that our prices are high.
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The 41 Market Co.

# Local Union Directory, Dist. 18, U.M.W.A

**GLADSTONE LOCAL**
**No. 2314**
Meet first and third Fridays, Miners' Hall, Fernie; second and fourth Fridays, Club Hall, Coal Creek. Sick Benefit attached.—T. Uphill, Sec., Fernie, B. C.

**MICHEL LOCAL**
**No. 2334**
Meet every Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock in Crahan's Hall. Sick Benefit Society attached.—R. Beard, secretary.

**PARK LOCAL**
**No. 1387**
Meet every Sunday. Sick and Accident Benefit Society attached.—Michael Warren, Sec., Cannore, Alta.

**HILLCREST LOCAL**
**No. 1058**
Meet second and fourth Sunday in month. Sick and Benefit Society attached.—Thos. Thompson.

**CARBONDALE LOCAL**
**No. 2227**
Meet every alternate Sunday at 2.30 p.m. in the Opera House, Coleman.—J. Mitchell, Sec., Box 105, Coleman.

**BANKHEAD LOCAL**
**No. 29**
Meet every Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock in the Bankhead Hall. Sick and Accident Benefit Fund attached.—Frank Wheatley, Fin. Sec., Bankhead, Alta.

**COALHURST LOCAL**
**No. 1189**
Meet every Friday evening at 7.30 in Miners' Hall. Sick and Accident Benefit Society attached.—Frank Barringham, Sec., Box 112, Coalhurst P. O.

**BEAVER CREEK LOCAL**
**No. 481**
Meet every first and third Sunday at Lyric Hall, 3 p.m.—John Loughran, Sec.

**COLEMAN LOCAL**
**No. 2633**
Meet every alternate Sunday at 2.30 p.m. in the Opera House, Coleman.—J. Johnstone, Sec.

**PASSBURG LOCAL**
**No. 2352**
Meet every second and fourth Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. in Slovak Hall. Sick Benefit Society attached.—Thos. G. Harries, Sec., Passburg, Alta.

**BURMIS LOCAL**
**No. 949**
Meet every second and fourth Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. in School House, Burmis. No Sick Society.—Thos. G. Harries, Sec., Passburg, Alta.

**MAPLE LEAF LOCAL**
**No. 2829**
Meet every first and third Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. in Union Hall, Maple Leaf. No Sick Society.—Thos. G. Harries, Sec., Passburg, Alta.

**LETHBRIDGE LOCAL**
**No. 574**
Meet every Wednesday evening at 7.30 in Miners' Hall, 12th Avenue North.—L. Moore, Sec.-Treas.

**BELLEVUE LOCAL**
**No. 431**
Meet every Sunday at 2.30 p.m. in the Socialist Hall.—James Burke, Sec., Box 36, Bellevue, Alta.

**CORBIN LOCAL**
**No. 2877**
Meet every second Sunday at 2 o'clock in the Club Hall. Sick Benefit Society attached.—R. Garbutt, sec., Corbin, B.C.

**GEORGETOWN LOCAL**
**No. 3026**
Meet every Sunday afternoon, 2.30, at Boarding House. Sick and Accident Fund attached.—Max Hutter, Sec.

**FRANK LOCAL**
**No. 1263**
Meet Sundays, after each pay day, at Miners Hall. Sick and Benefit Society attached.—E Morgan, Secretary.


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The Medicine you BREATHE into your Lungs


# Shot Firing

The following answer was given in reply to the question. What are the various regulations as to shot-firing and the treatment of explosives underground?

No explosive shall be stored underground, but shall be stored in a suitable place provided at the surface by the management. All explosives intended to be used underground shall be in the form of cartridges, and shall not be taken into the mine unless in a secure case, and not containing more than five pounds, and not more than one such case in any place at one time. If any explosive be in the possession of a workman at the end of his shift he shall bring it out of the mine with him, and return it to the place of storage, or personally hand it over to the workman succeeding him. The diameter of the cartridges to be set out in the Act, and the shot-hole must allow at least one-eighth of an inch clearance over and above the diameter of the cartridge. Proper warming pans must be provided and used, when necessary, in the case of explosives containing nitro-glycerine being used. Detonators must not be taken into or used in the mine except by an authorized person appointed in writing by the manager, and must be kept in a securely locked box until about to be used, except in the case of shaft sinking or deepening, where they may be fitted ready in workshop, as provided for under the Act, and only taken into the shaft when about to be used. Every charge shall be placed in a properly drilled shot-hole, and have sufficient stemming of a non-inflammable character, such as clay, and shall be rammed by no other than a proper tamping rod, as provided for by the Act, and not more than one description of explosive to be used in one shot hole. No explosive shall be forcibly pressed into the shot-hole, no explosive shall be unrammed, or any of the stemming removed, or the detonator leads pulled out, unless an exemption order has been granted by the Secretary of State that an appliance is used, which enables the detonator to be removed with safety after the hole has been charged. The shot-firer shall, before charging a shot, mark distinctly the direction of the hole on the roof or other convenient place, and shall, before firing the shot, see that all persons within the vicinity have taken proper shelter; and shall take precautions that no person be allowed to approach the shot, and also take proper shelter himself. If he thinks that the shot may blow through to an adjoining place he must give warning to the workmen, if any employed, to take proper shelter. All shots must be fired by means of a fuse permitted by the Act, and ignited by means of an igniter contained in a tube which, when attached to the fuse, forms a completely closed chamber. Where safety-lamps are not required the fuse may be ignited by the naked light on condition that the naked light shall not be allowed within four feet of the shot-hole or explosive. In mines not being coal mines shots may be fired by squibs of specified character laid down by the Act. When shots are fired electrically the appointed person shall not use a firing cable less than 20 yards in length, and shall himself couple up the cable to detonator leads before doing so to the firing apparatus. Such apparatus to be provided with a push button and removable handle, the removable handle always to be in the personal custody of the shot-firer, and not to be placed in position until the shot is about to be fired, and removed immediately after. The shot-firer shall make a careful examination of the place to see that it is in a safe condition after a shot has been fired. If a shot misfires no person shall approach the shot hole until an interval of ten minutes has elapsed in the case of shots fired electrically or by a squib, and not less than one hour if fired by any other means.

If the shot-firer leaves the place he shall [illegible] off, in places of danger boards, indicating the presence of a misfired shot, all necessary locks. If the shot has been properly fired, before approaching the shot hole he shall disconnect the firing cable and removable handle from the firing apparatus, and examine the cable and connections carefully for any defects. Except where the misfire is due to a defective connection and the shot has been fired as soon as the defect is remedied another shot shall be fired in a fresh hole not two [illegible] allowed in any case [illegible] be to be drilled nor [illegible] from the misfired shot, and parallel to it. If the misfired shot contained a detonator, the leads are [illegible] be fastened by string by the person firing the second shot to the cable or other convenient [illegible]. After the shot had been fired a [illegible] search for the detonator and charge shall be made before any [illegible] allowed in the place, and if they are not found the stone or mine [illegible] shall be loaded (without the use of [illegible]) as far as possible into a specially marked tub or tube and sent to the surface, and if the second shot does not dislodge the misfired shot [illegible] same precaution taken. The shot-[illegible] without delay [illegible] circumstances to the manager or underviewer and hand over to him the detonator and charge if found.

In coal mines in which inflammable gas has been found, within the [illegible] as to be dangerous or in any shaft or drift communicating therewith, no shot shall be fired in any one place, except in stone drifts or sinking pits, and he shall make an examination, as before mentioned, immediately before the firing of each shot. In stone-drifts, where shots are not fired electrically in series, the number of shots fired simultaneously shall not exceed three. The magneto-electrical firing apparatus must be efficient, and so enclosed as to afford reasonable security against the ignition of inflammable gas. When shots are required to be fired on the main haulage roads or main airways in coal mines, and not naturally wet throughout, a special permission must be granted in writing by the manager, and no other than a permitted explosive may be used. All workmen must be removed from the seam in which the shot is to be fired, and from all seams communicating with the shaft on the same level, except the men engaged, and appointed by the manager, in firing the shot, and the necessary number of persons to attend to the ventilation, steam boilers, engines, machinery, winding, signals, and horses, or in inspecting the mine. Such number not to exceed ten if the number of persons employed underground does not exceed 500, and an additional ten for every 500 employed. The above to be strictly enforced unless other provisions are made with the approval of the mines' inspector for the division, or for the purpose of repairs.

No shot shall be fired in such place unless the roof, floor, sides, and all other contiguous accessible places have been thoroughly watered within a radius of 20 yards of the place where the shot is to be fired. Where shot-firing cables are used in the vicinity of lighting or power cables, sufficient precautions shall be taken to prevent the firing cable from coming into contact with the lighting or power cables.—Science and Art of Mining.

# Cape Cod Economics

By Max Eastman

"If it ain't a leading question," says the fisherman who owns the boat-house in which I do my summer's studying, "are you a story writer?" He looks with a little of the scorn of a ship-shape sailor at my mess of books and papers.

"Yes, and worse than that," I answered. "Why?"

"There's a story I'd like to tell you, so you'll know what's happenin' around here. Things change pretty fast, you know." He laid a board over my waste-basket and sat down.

"Not half fast enough, do you think so?" I said.

"Well, that depends on which way the change is goin'. Do you know you're eatin' fish every day that your fathers wouldn't touch? Why, I myself remember my mother spankin' me for eatin' flounders, and here I've been in the flounder business five years!

"A year or so ago the fellers over at Boston was trying to get a government bounty on dog-fish. And they got me up to the State house to see if I'd go down to Washington and testify. I told em, 'Yes, I'll go to Washington, and I'll tell 'em this. I'll tell 'em if they kill the dog-fish, they'll be destroying the food of the poor in the next ten years.'

"'Why, it's all a matter of social position, I says. Dog-fish is just as good as flat-fish, but they ain't quite so respectable.'"

"What's going to make them respectable?" I asked.

"They ain't going to be respectable but they're going to be good enough for the poor people, that's all. I'll tell you why. Have you noticed them cold-storage plants down along here?"

"Yes, I have," I said, "they're a blot on the landscape."

"Tain't only the landscape," he said. "Just let me tell you. It's and [illegible] this harbor and wherever anybody [illegible] that was his property, [illegible], and anybody else would have to go somewhere else. This bay out here was our farm. That's what it was.

"Now, about thirty years ago, three or four fellers gets together and puts in a trap. They got this privilege from the town, from the selectmen. That was a permanent trap, you understand. It stayed there. All they had to do was to go out every day and take the fish out of it.

"And when they begin to get old and stiff they'd let somebody else go out and take out the fish for 'em on shares. That was all right. They owned the trap.

"But then a little while longer on they formed a company, and they secured some more privileges and built some more traps. And then the next thing you know they was selling stock all over the country, and building [illegible] cold-storage plants for 'em here. There ain't ten shares of that Cape Cod Fish Company owned in this town—not ten shares. It's most of it owned in San Francisco. And yet that building owns the town, and it owns us, and it owns the whole dog gone damned harbor."

"Why can't you go out there and put [illegible]?"

"I can't get the privilege, that's [illegible] any privileges. The State of Massachusetts allows the town authorities to grant those privileges, and the town authorities belong to these cold-storage companies. That's how it goes.

"I'll tell you what privileges the fishermen have got. We've got the privilege of goin' out in the sea fishin', and bringin' in fish, when they've glutted the market in Boston, sellin' the fish to the cold storage for a dollar a barrel, as they can put 'em on ice and ship 'em out when the right time comes for $3 a barrel.

"There are just two things for us to do—either leave town, or go to work for them at $40 a month, takin' four hundred to a thousand dollars' worth of fish a month out o' their traps. They paid a dividend last year of sixty dollars on a hundred dollars of stock, and there ain't a year they haven't paid over twenty.

"And who gets it? I've watched them fellers trudgin' back from those traps about 11 o'clock in the morning, hardly able to lift their boots, an' I've said to myself, 'How many of them fellers is goin' home to a good meal of meat like he used to? Not one in ten,' I say. A family can't live in Provincetown on $40 a month.

"Forty dollars ain't what it used to be, you know. It ain't anything. And yet, I say to myself, 'Who's entitled to a good meal, those people out in San Francisco or these men here that's been up in the fog since 4 o'clock in the morning producin' fish? . . . .

"And that ain't the whole story, either. These big buildings hain't only made slaves of us, but now they're driving us out of town with taxes. Who uses the roads here? Do I use them? No—their trucks use it, and the summer people, and that's all. But just 'cause my little house juts on it, I have to pay a tax that's makin' it impossible for me to stay in the house.

"Let me tell you. There's a fish tax and them fellers have it collected in May, and when it's collected they take pains to have their storage as near empty as they can, and then they come up here in June and start in, and I'll tell you there's between four and five hundred thousand barrels of fish goes through there untaxed, and [illegible] considerably over 50 per cent. That's one way I'm supportin' them people in San Francisco.

"And yet if I go out on their dock to look around and see how my money's spent, I'm just as like as not to get kicked off into the sea. I'm afraid to go out there.

"Here's another thing. I pay $10 for, say, 10,000 gallons of water. I don't know the figure, but I know the facts. I pay for a ten-dollar meter in my house. They pay $50, and I figure that would allow them 50,000 gallons of water, if I have ten. Isn't that right? Well, they use a hundred, two hundred thousand gallons. They use all they want to. That's the short of it. And how will they do that? They simply come before the town and they says, 'If you'll give us the water we want for $50, we'll use your water. If you won't, we'll sink a well of our own.' So there you are. I'm payin' for the coal to pump water for them people in San Francisco.

"That's a good story," I said.

"Of course, now, you know, the trouble with stories is that they're always told by people prejudiced. I'm naturally prejudiced against those cold-storage people, 'cause they're driving me out of town, but they'd tell you a different story about the good they've done. And it's true, too.

"Take [illegible] for example, they've made them a marketable fish. They were [illegible] we couldn't handle 'em. We'd throw 'em overboard. But they take 'em right in on ice while they're still flappin' and it makes a good saleable article where there wasn't one.

"And I can't tell you, there's no use taking a load of bad fish to those people. They've got a reputation. They won't let you get within smellin' distance of their wharf with a load o' fish that ain't absolutely right.

"And then, of course, what I've been tellin' you is merely the way things is now. They didn't use to be that way always. Things is just as liable to change in the future as in the past, if you keep your eyes open!"

"Did you ever hear of Socialism?" I asked.

"Yes.'

"Do you know anything about it?"

"No, I don't know much of anything. If I did I wouldn't be here now, would I?"

"I'm not so sure," I answered.—N. Y. Call.

# Labor Commission In Calgary

(Continued from Page One)

where they were employed before? Has any record been taken of this?

Chairman: It is difficult to keep a record of these things. It is safe in stating that a large number of unemployed left railway construction camps and from agricultural districts—from farmers—and such like, but the situation is a good deal different this year.

L. T. English: Mr. President, I happen to know relating to this unemployment problem, that probably nearly every industry has been letting out and cutting down their forces. I know for an actual fact that on the C. P. R. there were 70 crews of men working in the neighborhood of Medicine Hat on building construction, and that that force has been cut down to 30 crews. Now, this is a decrease of somewhere in the neighborhood of 60 per cent in employment in that line alone. I would venture to assert that there is hardly a business in the West but what has cut down their force of men, and that easily explains to my way of looking at it, why there are such large numbers out of employment. Not only are they thrown out of employment, but they are unable to get any, thus increasing the number of unemployed at all times. That we have an unemployment problem of tremendous magnitude cannot be disputed. I think that the very presence of these gentlemen here to discuss this question of seeing what can be done to relieve the situation, acknowledges the fact that the situation exists. Now, it strikes me that the way we ought to proceed in this matter is to view the situation from the stand-point of the various people and towns here represented, and the Provincial and Dominion Governments, and see if there is not considerable work pending, work that has already been begun, provided for in the estimates, and ready to be proceeded with, that can be opened up; some work that possibly both the cities and the Dominion Government, and the cities and Provincial Government together are interested in, that is pending, that by co-operation of all representatives of all these different powers that this work can be discussed here and some program arranged by us to the end that considerable work can be opened up, and I would suggest that we see what can be done along these lines.

Chairman Ross: Suggestions are in order as to what could be accomplished this winter without any loss in any way and could easily expect the Dominion or Provincial Governments to assist financially. Of course, it is a pretty difficult thing.

Mayor Sinnott: The difficulty is not so much providing for the work, but getting the money after providing. We have a number of estimates for work which has been provided in our estimates in the city, and the same thing I think is true of Western Canada. There are some $25,000,000.00 in taxes to be collected altogether in towns and cities, 10 per cent. of which has not been paid. The city is in somewhat the same position as private individuals, and everybody willing to do lots of work if we could pay for it, but there is no use in a man doing work unless he can get money for it. We have some bridges in the city we are going on with. This winter the work will be entirely confined to actual labor, wherever any material is required that part of the work will be left over until next year. There is, of course, in this Western country, in winter, a great deal of work that cannot be done. Possibly some can be done at an increased expense, but other work it is impossible to do. As far as the city is concerned, during the first week of the crisis work was closed down by the city, but most of the men were taken back, especially married men with families. And I think the city has practically employed all the men they can afford to at the present time. Another point, in regard to the unemployed, there is one [illegible] Union. The chairman stated a minute ago that unemployment a great deal of it, is due to the fact that the Dominion Railroads employ large numbers [illegible] winter, they are out of employment. Now, although the employment in the cities today is not confined to this class of men, this class make it much more difficult to get work for those temporarily out of it. For instance, if you have foreigners in the city, some of them are bound to be doing work that might be given to those who are temporarily out of employment, out of manufacturing establishments, and so on. For instance, the C. P. R. are not employing anything like the number they did a year or two years ago. Some men might be able to get work if it was not taken by those [illegible] flowing into the city. I had a conversation with Mr. R. B. Bennett, the other day, with regard to certain work in the city here, and Mr Bennett informed me that the Government would do all it possibly could, although the revenue had decreased some $25,000,000 from last year. The city will employ all the men it possibly can, and it might help matters if a system of relays were adopted. For instance, one man a halfday for one week and give employment for another class or another bunch of men for another week, and in this way divide up the work. Of course, we have the same considerable portion in this city that have reached the position of actual distress. We have fortified ourselves here as far as possible along these lines, and I think there are just as many men employed at this time as there were two or three months past. If there is anything further, that we can do, will hear from those who are represented in the Labor organization here.

Chairman Ross to Mayor Sinnott: How many men have you employed just now? Do you expect to employ as many as last winter?

Mayor Sinnott: It is not likely; I think with the exception of some grading work in the city, most of the other men will be kept at work.

Chairman Ross: Do I understand therefore, that you have sufficient money to carry on the bridge work?

Mayor Sinnott: I could scarcely go into detail.

Acting-Mayor Smith, Edmonton: Mr Chairman, I am very pleased to meet with you this morning to discuss this employment problem. We have in the City of Edmonton, and have had for several years, every winter this problem to face. There has been a large amount of railway construction work going on from year to year, also a large amount of work of a construction nature being done in the city, because of climatic conditions. This work of necessity stops in the fall, and, as a result, there has been every fall quite a large number of men thrown out of work, but this year, owing to the outbreak of war, this condition has been somewhat aggravated. The city itself has had to lay off quite a number of men this fall early in the season. This was unavoidable, and I may say would not have been except for the outbreak of the European war. So far as our city is concerned, we are endeavoring to meet the urgent needs at the present time in the very best way we can, and the city is prepared to continue to do that. As to the problem of the city being able to furnish work this winter, just at present moment I do not know that we would be able to employ many more men, or any more than we have employed at the present time. We have a few works that could be gone on with if we had the money. It has occurred to me, Mr. Chairman, that we ought to encourage more than have in the past this "back to the land" movement. This Province is, first of all, an agricultural province. If it is anything, it is that. This is a country where industries as yet have not become very well developed and, as a result, we have very few works of that kind goink on that continue throughout the year. We have neglected our greatest heritage. Of course, it is difficult to get men who have always lived in cities, and are not used to farming, to go on the land, but I think that as men and women interested in the problem of Labor in this Province, we should do all we can to endeavor to get those who are out of work at the present time, who understand farming and who have ever lived on a farm, out onto the land. There is lots of room for them. This winter they may not be able to earn very much money, but I do believe that in most cases they could get their living and acquire a knowledge of the industry, and that next spring they would be able to earn a good living wage. Now, as to how that can be done I do not know that I can say. [illegible] effort but that is what I think would be done is my personal opinion. At the same time, if it were possible to get the Dominion Government or the Provincial Government to start [illegible] they had contemplated doing, for which they had the money, for which estimates had been prepared, I think it would be a splendid thing. Most of these works, however, are works that are done in the summer time, and as to whether or not they have anything that could be carried on in the winter time, I cannot say. Probably some representatives of the government could tell us.

Mayor Hardie, Lethbridge: I suppose it is up to me now that mayors of other cities have spoken to say something about our city.

(Continued on Page Seven)

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## List of Locals District 18

| No. | Name | Secretary's Address |
|---|---|---|
| 27 | White Ash Mine | Wm. March, Taber, Alta. |
| 29 | Bankhead | F. Wheatley, Bankhead, Alta. |
| 431 | Beaver Creek | J. Loughran, Beaver Creek, via Pincher, Alta. |
| 441 | Bellevue | James Burke, Box 36, Bellevue, Alta. |
| 1163 | Blairmore | Wm. Archer, Blairmore, Alta. |
| 948 | Burmis | T. G. Harris, Passburg, Alta. |
| 2327 | Carbondale | J. Mitchell, Carbondale, Coleman, Alta. |
| 1287 | Canmore | Michael Warren, Canmore, Alta. |
| 2633 | Coleman | J. Johnston, Coleman, Alta. |
| 2817 | Corbin | R. Garbutt, Corbin, B. C. |
| 1126 | Chinook Mines | J. Evans, Chinook Mines Commerce, Alta. |
| 2311 | Fernie | Thos. Uphill, Fernie, B. C. |
| 1263 | Frank | Evan Morgan, Frank, Alta. |
| 1058 | Hillcrest | Mack Stigler, Hillcrest, Alta. |
| 571 | Lethbridge | L. Moore, 1131 Sixth Avenue, N. Lethbridge |
| 1189 | Lethbridge Collieries | Frank Barningham, Coalhurst Alta. |
| 2629 | Maple Leaf | T. G. Harris, Passburg, Alta. |
| 2331 | Michel | Richard Beard, Michel, B. C. |
| 2352 | Passburg | T. G. Harris, Passburg, Alta. |
| 102 | Taber | A. Patterson, Taber, Alta. |
| 1263 | Georgetown, Canmore | Max Hacker, Georgetown, Canmore, Alta. |
| 1007 | Brazeau Mines | Harry McKenna, Nordegg, via Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. |

# *Labor Commission In Calgary*

(Continued from Page Six)

As you all know, the summer has been one which has produced very unsatisfactory results to labor and men of all classes, including farmers, and I think that has applied more especially to our section of the country than any other part of Alberta. We have had no railroad construction or any other public works going on, except those which originated with the city. However, we were successful in getting considerable money together, and we are employing at the present time most of our citizens in certain classes and certain work in relays. We are not giving them steady employment. In the meantime they are probably making out a living, nothing more, and we are looking forward to the time, a little later on in the winter, when those people will all be out of work entirely, with no reserve funds to carry them over. The city will be called upon to a considerable extent for some help from those of the labor class. There is another question probably harder to deal with even than the laboring class, and those accustomed to more or less hardship—the class that has always been fairly prosperous and pride prevents them from securing relief. Efforts are being made to help those people. This class has never been included before. Our miners are not getting anything like full work in our district. As far as Lethbridge is concerned, conditions are not good, although I understand they are not quite so bad as Calgary or Edmonton. If the railways would use Western coal, and keep the coal mines in operation, this would be the means of offering employment to a large number of men. At the present time we are employing men so that they can live, but I do not know what they will do from the first of the year on.

Hon. C. R. Mitchell: Mr. Chairman, With respect to this problem, so far as it might effect the Provincial Government, I might point out that it appears to me that the scope is considerably wider in regard to any activity that the Provincial Government might undertake. We not only have people in the cities and towns who are unemployed, appealing through their representatives to us for assistance, but we have a large rural population as well. Now, it is not all prosperity in the farming community. It is true that in portions of the Province lying, generally speaking, north of the C. P. R. main line, the people are able to look after themselves all right, but that section lying south of a line drawn through Calgary and east of a line from Calgary to Macleod, is in a very bad condition. Now, the Provincial Government has been confronted with distress and in some instances with absolute starvation this year already, and, as I have said, we have to devote our energies to that phase of the problem as well as listening to the appeals of representatives of municipalities. We have done what we can so far to relieve conditions as they appear to us. So far as cities and municipalities are concerned, the construction promotion of the Provincial Government this year has been small; most of our Provincial buildings have been built. The government's construction program has not been decided upon, but I do not anticipate that any heavy construction program will be undertaken for the reason that the larger public buildings that are needed at the present time have been about completed with few exceptions. Of course, the jail and asylum buildings are not completed, but work will be resumed on these as soon as weather conditions will permit, and all assistance that can be given, through medium of work, will be given. With respect to the country in the south east portion of the province, we have spent large amounts of money there relieving farmers who were absolutely destitute. Now, we have given a great deal of employment in the way of road construction this year, much more than we would have done under ordinary circumstances, and it has relieved the rural population in that section for a considerable length of time, at least. Our efforts have been very ably supplemented by the Dominion Government, who are, of course, issuing orders for necessary provisions and fuel on merchants in that area. I do not think there will be starvation in the rural sections I mentioned. What is to become of them next year, when it will be necessary for them to start in and do their seeding, I do not know, for outdoor work ceases with the freeze-up. We cannot [illegible] tion, and that is the main avenue by which we can distribute money to people. Our telephone construction has been quite large this year, employing a great many men, but in most instances they have to be mechanical experts. The average man cannot do that work. That work is now closed up for the year owing to climatic conditions. I am just as much at sea as the mayors of the various cities so far as finding a way to relieve the unemployed through the medium of work. It is true that in some instances work has been done by the Provincial Government in the way of getting out material and that sort of thing, but a great deal of that material comes from another province, and these things usually have to be done at opportune times so as [illegible] cases coming from that source would not be very general or widespread. The only suggestion that occurs to me that might be of some value and yet not be expensive or costly is to organize some kind of a central bureau to get in touch with those parts of the Province where conditions are not so bad. Such a central bureau might be started to get in touch with the farming population of this province, where there is not so much distress, but where on the other hand there is some considerable prosperity; there may be many of those farmers who would welcome help this winter. It is true they would not be in position to pay wages, but they (the unemployed) would get a comfortable home and board, and in return relieve the farmer. A great many of the farmers might want to go home for the winter on a visit, but cannot go because they have no one to take their place. A good many people could be placed on farms in that capacity. Now, that might relieve the distress to some extent, and figuring there are thousands of unemployed people in this province, that would do a considerable amount of good it seems to me if they would accept positions of that kind provided they could be secured. If they would leave towns and cities and do land work for the winter, for what small allowance the farmer would be able to spare, a great many cases of distress could be relieved. At the present time that is the only suggestion I am in a position to throw out. Whether or not as time goes on, and if conditions grow more intolerant, we will be able to formulate some other plans of assistance, is a matter, of course, I would have to leave for fuller consideration by all members of the Government. I am only here today in the same capacity as the other invited guests, to hear the discussion, to get an idea of the extent of the distress and to afterwards do whatever is possible to formulate some plan to relieve them. I do not think it is ever expected of us, nor do I think it advisable that the Provincial Government should vote an amount of money for specific purposes of keeping people through the winter. I think the only legitimate way of handling this, is to provide employment, if found possible to do it. We can expend a great many thousands of Provincial money in providing employment, but the difficulty is to reach the men who are in most need of it. I am not here to throw the responsibility onto the municipalities or Dominion Government has ways and means both of securing money and expending money. We cannot put taxation on automobiles and raise a certain amount of money for specific relief purposes. The program for the season is pretty well concluded, and we have not up to the present time any specific program for the ensuing year, nor do we think it wise to decide on expenditure of further capital money on public buildings in these towns, because the necessity has not arisen for it, so there is the situation so far as we are concerned. I can only assure you that if some plan is formulated we would endeavor to meet the occasion as best we can, bearing in mind the responsibilities we have as a Provincial Government, but we cannot "coin" money, and we cannot very well spend money for other purposes than what the money is intended for. And that particular money whatever be on hand it is not the proper time to expend, the demand for it not having arisen, except insofar as there is a demand for general employment.

Ald. J. A. Kenny, Edmonton: Mr. Chairman, your statement that there were some 5,000 unemployed in Calgary is, I believe, well within the mark, and I believe that conditions in Calgary are similar to those in Edmonton with just this difference, that in Edmonton there is a larger number at present employed in railway construction to the west of the city that in the course of a short time will be thrown out of employment, due to the freeze-up, and then we shall get a large influx into Edmonton from the west. I can quite understand that the different cities and municipalities are doing their utmost to cope with the situation, and they find themselves, very much like individuals, without money. It is true that the "back to the land" movement is the [illegible] lem, and that unemployment would be solved by such, consequently it has become very popular. It looks very well in print; it reads well, and we find our newspapers play it up in very large head lines, but surely after listening [illegible] effect that there are now in the [illegible] a large number who require assistance, surely we cannot say that "back to the land" is the solution? What a [illegible] just as the winter comes comes on is food, clothing and shelter, and if I understand the object of this meeting it is to offer some solution to that question. It is true that those people who want food, clothing and shelter want a market for their labor, so that they may obtain it in the usual way. I can very well understand that the market in which to sell their labor power is very limited. I do not know, even though cities and municipalities could borrow money, whether it would be good business for them to do so. We find our cities are taxed very high at the present time, and the people who will have to pay this back are already offering very strong objection to the amount of money that has been bororwed for public work in our cities. I believe that what is true of the cities is true of the Provincial Government, and perhaps Alberta is somewhat in the same position as other provincial governments throughout the Dominion. But it seems to me that we should at least draw to the attention of the Dominion Government, who now have some control over the land of this province, the necessity of starting in and cultivating some large areas so that at least food could be gotten to keep a large number of people from starving to death in the future if we found that the industries of our country will be closed down for a considerable length of time. It looks to me, at the present time, that in addition to these people who are out of employment, there will be a larger number out of employment as time goes on, and that their condition will be much more acute than it is at the present time.

While the Dominion Government might spend some money in improvements that are contemplated, I cannot understand why it is generally accepted that this is the only legitimate way, and it seems to me that the Dominion Government, having control of the land, that some movement should be inaugurated. I think that before this meeting adjourns some recommendation along that line should be made.

Chairman Ross: I regret that Mr. R. B. Bennett, Dominion representative, is not present. I fully expected he would be here, and I am somewhat surprised that he has not turned up. However, I think the recommendation of Mr. Kenney is worthy of consideration. It seems to me the only way that we can meet the situation is to handle or centralize our efforts, and if I understand Mr. Mitchell rightly, he claims that it is almost an impossibility to hand out money for that purpose. Now, there is one scheme in Calgary alone which I think is worthy of consideration, viz., throughout the winter there is work to be done along the north bank of the Bow River which could be done as cheaply in winter time as in the summer time. If we are to assume that the Provincial Government and Dominion Government are largely responsible for the unemployed situation, as they are, I do not see why the Dominion Government and Provincial Government should not come to the assistance of the municipality in financing this work along the bank of the river. This one scheme in Calgary is worthy of consideration.

Hon. C. R. Mitchell: Mr. Chairman, to give you an idea of the extent of the relief work which the Dominion Government is doing for the agricultural population, will probably run into two million dollars. That is a pretty large sum, and I think it is only right that this convention should know that a heavy demand has already been made upon the Dominion Government. Homesteaders seem to be as bad off as those in the cites, with the exception of a very few places. In the north it is splendid, and there is no need of anybody suffering.

Secretary-Treasurer Alfred Farmilo: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say a few words. It has been my duty to gather statistics with regard to unemployment. First of all I would like to supplement a statement made by the Chairman of the meeting that so far as we are concerned we are not responsible for the unemployed condition. We are here representing those who are out of work, representing in a number of cases, men who have not suffered from unemployment for years, who find themselves in a very critical position to face the coming winter. Along with the chairman of this meeting, I regret that the Dominion Government has somewhat shirked its duty in not having an official representative at this meeting. The Labor Department have no need to require statistics, because they already have them from our good friend, Mr. McNiven, who is an excellent worker along those lines and he [illegible] ering statistics and getting knowledge of conditions during the past 12 months not only from here, but so far west as British Columbia, so it is somewhat peculiar to us that there should not be a representative from their Cabinet Council here, seeing that this question is a national one, and discussions of this kind might assist them in meeting the situation. Some of the statistics that I have gathered from the various parts of the district [illegible] from rural towns, such as Hardisty, etc., which proves large numbers [illegible] there was a real demand for these men on the farms I would naturally think that they could be obtained from the large towns much easier than from the cities, and further could have been [illegible] Mr. Smith, who represents the Mackenzie Railway Construction Co., that 1500 additional men will next month. We have already a very conservative estimate of the unemployed in the City of Edmonton of 3000. We are going to have that supplemented in a month's time by 1500 more who come from the railroads with no outlet for these people. True, perhaps a few [illegible] little money, but that money would last long. The present conditions of unemployment have been with us for the last 18 months, and have been accelerated by the European war, undoubtedly, but the European war was not the cause. [illegible] state that the Imperial Government did not shift their responsibility as the Dominion Government has done in regard to meeting the representatives of labor in Britain. A system will undoubtedly be adopted in the old country whereby the hours will be reduced and not the wages, as has been done on a number of occasions throughout this Province—i.e., reducing hours and allowing people to have sufficient food, clothing and shelter to keep them going until conditions change. The tendency has been in the cities not to reduce hours, but reduce wages. Now, this is not preventing the hardships of those who have no work at all, so it would be much better to distribute the money over a greater part of the population than just limit it to a few. Then the coal mines would be favorably affected, thus giving employment to hundreds of men. Suppose by reducing the hours of work all the unemployed could earn $2.00 per day, that would be expended for other food, the result of which will be greater demands for other commodities, more stenographers would be at work, more sales clerks, and so on through the various grades of employment. I might say that the abuse is in reducing the staffs in the various work shops and in warehouses instead of reducing the hours of labor. The trouble, as I have found it, is that those who are really responsible are the employers. The position is very simple. Here we are, wage workers; here you are, the owners of the job. You have the jobs, we have to come to you and ask for work. There is no denying for that is always the relation of workers to employers. Therefore you are responsible, and it is up to you, both Dominion and Provincial Governments and mayors of cities, to get right down to business and deal with the situation. We think the suggestion which comes from the Provincial Treasurer, Hon. C. R. Mitchell, with regard to some central bureau for the purpose of better distribution, is a splendid idea. The business people of this Province, and of the various cities, should get together and formulate some program whereby they could arrange to divide the work among a greater number of people, instead of reducing the wages reduce the hours. Again, in the matter of financing, I can appreciate the position of the mayors of the various cities, and I understand that a great amount of municipal work has not been proceeded with because of lack of funds. However, this is not going to feed men out of work neither is it going to handle the situation which will face us in the near future. I am not in favor of relief giving; I would sooner see men procure work and if it is productive work there will be assets created to cover expenditures; if it is unproductive work—purely relief—that is unscientific. There will be a decided reaction and something to clear up at a later date. I am well aware that the lumber industry, so far as timber is concerned, has a sufficient cut already, and naturally prices are going down; consequently lumber manufacturers are desirous of curtailing production in order to restore the prices of some few months ago. The loggers and lumber workers could be provided with sufficient employment in getting out railway ties. The ties could be consumed by the railroads on their various branch lines. Charters have been granted by the Government to railways and the Government are in a position to force them to consider such a scheme. Grading cannot be gone on with on account of the freeze-up, but where there is rock work to do the Dominion and Provincial Governments should force the contractors to see that it should be gone on with, and thus give numbers of men employment. From the statistics I have taken, and which come from all over the Province, I might state that there are miners in many camps working only 2 or 3 days a week, and some trades have only worked three weeks in the entire season. The average time a number of the trades have worked during the past 12 months is three months. It is up to us to try and remove this situation by some system of distribution of work over a great number of [illegible] a class of people who are very seldom out of work, and we understand that people of this kind are not accustomed to hard labor, and can very well understand their position when they find themselves seeking employment. Such people have hitherto been fairly prosperous and have not been face to face with such conditions as to [illegible] as it is being borne by the various [illegible] to set down and attend to our business [illegible] party, who is purely a person who has come to you and asked for work.

(This report will be continued next


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Noble Grand, J. T. Puckey.
Secretary, J. B. Mcilklejohn.

**ESTHER REBEKAH LODGE NO. 20**
meets first and third Thursdays in month, at 8 p. m., in K. P. Hall.
A. MINTON, N. G.
S. TOWNSEND, R. Sec.

**ANCIENT ORDER OF FORESTERS**
Meet at Aiello's Hall second and third Mondays in each month.
John M. Woods, Secretary.
Fernie, Box 657.

**KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS**
Meet every Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. in their own Hall, Victoria Avenue.
C. C., T. Ratcliffe.
K. of S., D. J. Black.
M. of F., Jas. Madison.

**LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE**
Meets every Monday at 7:30 p. m., in K. of P. Hall.
Dictator, F. H. Newnham.
Secretary, G. Moses.
140 Howland Ave.

**LOYAL TRUE BLUE ASSOCIATION**
Lady Terrace Lodge, No. 224, meets in the K. P. Hall second and fourth Friday of each month at 8 p. m.
MRS. J. BROOKS, W. M.
W. ORR, Secretary.

**LOYAL ORANGEMEN**
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*Over 60 coats go on sale Saturday every coat good style and excellent value, A look will convince you we are right. You will find them in six different lots.*

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| 10 | Coats, reg. value $18.50 to $22.50 | for $15.00 |
| 12 | Coats, reg. value $15 to $17.50 | for $10.00 |
| 8 | Coats, reg. value $10.50 to $12.50 | for $ 8.50 |
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28 Felt Shapes, all smart styles and good assortment of colors, value up as high as $3.50.

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A big assortment to select from. These come in all shades and styles. Regular up to 75c.

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A splendid quality and a good wearer; size 8½ to 10.

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This is a very special line and a dandy wearer. Comes in both white and natural; Vests and Drawers; sizes 34 to 40.

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Size 60 x 80. Pure finish and an extra good quality.

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An extra soft, fleecy finish; very suitable for ladies' and children's wear. Comes in pale blue, pink, white and a big selection of stripes.

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## Here is a Buying Opportunity For Men

A splendid chance to secure the very best grade of winter wear at prices reduced to meet every man's purse. Our big window displays a few specimens of the great range of Suits and Overcoats on sale Saturday.

**MEN'S SUITS**

Every Suit offered is guaranteed first-class in every detail and embraces all lines of high grade tweeds, worsteds and serges, in a great variety of patterns. These suits are made in the three-button, single-breasted style, and we carry all sizes from 32 to 44.

The prices for Saturday only will be very attractive, ranging from **$7.50 to $20.00.** This will include Suits worth as high as $37.50.

**BUY YOUR WINTER SUIT NOW**

**MEN'S OVERCOATS**

Have you seen our new stock of Overcoats? The greatest variety of styles and cloths we have ever shown are now on display, and the prices are low, but our Saturday price will be still lower.

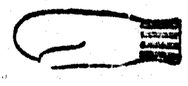
The styles shown are up-to-the-minute, shawl collars, belted backs; also convertible collars and box backs. See some of these styles on display in our window. All sizes: 34 to 44 chest measurement.

Prices ranging from ..... **$8.00 to $25.00**

**BUY NOW AND SAVE MONEY**

## Suits $7.50 - $20 Overcoats $8 - $25

## *Men's Mitts & Gloves*



Men's heavy wool working Mitts, made to stand some wear; a good range of colors in two-ply and three ply. On sale Saturday at ..... 45c. pair

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A fine warm dress Glove, perfect fitting, good wearing and warmly lined. These are made from a first class grade of mocha in tan and brown shades. Our Saturday price will be..... 75c. pair.

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**MEN'S DRESSY TAN BOOTS**

Heavy double sole, Tan Calf button and Blucher Boots, made on three different lasts, with medium

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**Special Saturday and Monday** ..... **pair $3.75**

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Men's well nailed Pit Boots, made in heavy crome and split leathers; good, serviceable Boots for heavy wear. Regular values from $3.25 to $3.75.

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Boys' sizes, 11 to 1. These are odd lines, suitable for wet weather; made with heavy soles and uppers, will stand rough wear. Regular value $2.25 to $2.75.

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Misses' sizes, 11 to 2, made in light and heavy leathers, with medium weight soles. Regular values to $3.00

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Ladies' and Girls' Shoes, sizes 7 to 10½. These are made in black and tan leathers; button and Blucher styles; in heavy box calf, crome and viel kid leathers.

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| Robin Hood Porridge Oats, 2 pkgs. | .55 |
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| Laurentia Milk, 20 oz., 3 tins | .25 |
| Laurentia Milk, large size, 2 tins | .25 |
| Braid's Big Four Coffee, fresh ground, 2 lbs. | .75 |
| Snider's Tomato Catsup, pints | .30 |
| Roquefort Cheese, per lb. | .40 |
| Silver Label Flavoring Extracts, 4 oz. | .15 |
| Cooking Eggs, 3 dozen | 1.00 |
| Selected Eggs, 2 dozen | .75 |
| Canada First Jam, 5 lb. pails | .60 |
| Peaches, 3 lb. tins, Kelowna Brand | .25 |
| Apricots, 3lb. tins, Hunt's | .30 |
| California Cooking Figs, 2 lbs. | .25 |
| California Black Figs, 2 lbs | .25 |
| California Table Figs, per lb | .20 |
| Cranberries, per lb | .10 |
| Lyle's English Syrup, 2 lb. tins, 2 for | .35 |
| Imperial Maple Syrup, quarts | .25 |
| Special Blend Bulk Tea, 2 lbs. | .75 |
| Canned Peas, 2's, Standard | .10 |
| Canned Peas, Early June, 2 for | .25 |
| Okanagan Onions, 12 lbs. | .25 |
| British Columbia Carrots, 15 lbs. | .25 |
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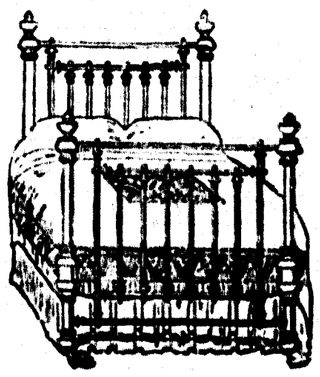

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White enamelled Cribs, fitted with drop sides and a first grade spring, size 2 ft. 6 in. by 4 ft. 6 in. Regular, $7.50 at ..... $5.00

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