

"Even among the employees there were many who had no sympathy with the strike idea, and it was rare indeed to find one supporting the affair among the general public. 'Ill-timed and ill-advised' was the general comment."

This cannot be denied. The only party connected with the affair to whom I have spoken said he did not wish to go on strike, but as others, unfavorable, thought they had to go out, he went out with them. He had no grievances.

"The first real effort at an agreement was tried on Saturday evening, when the Board of Trade tendered their services. After a long discussion with the men, the Board accompanied a committee to interview President Crockard, but the interview came to naught as a clause that union dues would be deducted through the works pay office was rejected. On Monday another mass meeting was held in the Academy of Music. Mr. J. C. Watters had reached town from Ottawa, and Jas. McLaughlin, who had been the labor representative on the Royal Commission, was also here. The meeting ran the whole afternoon and was a spirited one in many ways. Mr. McLaughlin defended his concurrence in the decision of the Commission. It is said he told the meeting how one of the big pay labor leaders had informed the Chairman of the Commission that wages was not an issue with the men. The issue was recognition."

"Mr. Watters was again delegated to interview the management accepting certain increases of pay that the company proposed to give and requesting recognition of the union. The meeting re-convened in the evening and accepted the increased pay proposals, agreeing to return to work on the morrow, but without the desired recognition of recognition. The minimum wage has been increased and certain advances have been given to mechanics."

All will be thankful that the trouble has been ended and the men once more taking their legitimate part as producers in the great needs of the nation. Whether they have gained sufficient to counteract the ill that the tie-up has worked for the cause of organized labor remains to be seen. We have that faith in their sincerity and honesty of purpose to believe that they will defeat the insinuations of disloyalty that have been hurled at them and select from among themselves safe and sane leaders who will advocate their cause with an eye single to the good of the worker and the advantage of the community."

It is to be hoped that the steel workers will take this advice, so pregnant with wisdom, though given with, apparently, some things unsaid, that the men will select sane leaders from among themselves. The inference with regard to the leaders 'not of themselves' is plain. They are not compos mentis, nor have they a single eye for the good of the workers. In short, the inference is their eye is for Number One. I am disinclined to go so far as to say that, but am content to endorse the inference that 'the leaders' 'not from among themselves' haven't the slightest idea of the fitness of things."

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The Eastern Chronicle gives for the benefit of the Mining Record its opinion of the present Union

Government. It is that "if it goes on the way it has for the four years of its life remaining to it, there will be few found to do it reverence. Life is too short to spend time in respecting that unholy combination and its actions do not begot respect." "If that be really your contemporary's humble desire and prayer, let it continue in its present course and instead of denouncing it, keep on encouraging it to pursue the policy, that will end in its utter downfall. Denunciation may cause it to think over its ways and reform; encouragement will cause it to continue as it has done, and is doing, and will result in no one respecting it, and no one voting for its candidates."

A DRY DOCK FOR SYDNEY.

The following is from one of the Sydney papers, we are not sure which, as we omitted to mark the clipping:

During the day representatives of the Sydney Foundry and Machine Works, Ltd., interviewed the ministers with reference to the company's dry dock project which is understood to be in a fair way towards successful inception.

The company has good financial backing but is desirous of having some modification made in the government's bonus plan, by which the full subsidy could be secured for a dry dock somewhat smaller than the regular first class dock. Some other objects of the enterprise were also discussed. The ministers were obviously impressed with the soundness of the scheme and reasonableness of the request and promised to recommend the matter to the favorable attention of their colleagues in the government.

Anderson's Point, near Victoria Park, is the site of the projected dry dock, where the Sydney Foundry and Machine Works already have a ship repair plant. The location is an excellent one, and public interest in the success of the venture is all the more keen as the promoters are well known Sydney business men.

AGAINST GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

As Mr. Carvell stated in a previous interview, the subsidizing of dry docks for the encouragement of shipping and shipbuilding was made part of the government policy in 1910, and it stands ready at any time to give these industries all the assistance which the law allows. "The plants cannot be run successfully under government control," said Mr. Carvell; "no industry can. We are compelled to run some railroads, and we are doing the best we can with them, but they are not as successful as if they were under corporation management. The government has now under its supervision four shipbuilding yards. One is at Nanaimo, two at Levis and the fourth is at Kingston. A shipbuilding plant cannot be run successfully or efficiently except with a large repairing plant in connection with it. We have not these at either of the plants mentioned and they are rather expensive for government enterprises, anyway."