

original letters where hundreds of thousands of acres of our choicest lands are offered at syndicate prices to be sold over again at any price that can be extorted out of the settler. Here is one on page 9 of "The Crisis," but evidently Mr. Bowser never saw it, for he never mentions it. We have printed five pages of names of men and firms that hold areas of land the law does not allow them to have, and Mr. Bowser has clearly proved our impartiality in this by pointing out certain Liberals whom we have listed as they are recorded on the rolls. Yet not one of these scores of men, nor Mr. Bowser himself, has attempted to prove we are wrong in one single instance. (Applause.) He mentions his own firm, and in misquoting us, he admits that Howser, Reid & Wallbridge hold not only the 16,909 acres we credit to them, but that they also handle another 16,435 for Bonthorne, Leonard & Co. (laughter.) Of course his argument was that our pamphlet was proved to be partisan because the name of his firm was printed at the top of the page. Well, gentlemen, this whole list is printed in alphabetical order, and if Mr. Bowser insists not only on heading both his own firm and the B. C. government, but the English alphabet, he must suffer the consequences. (Laughter.)

This charge of partisanship he also tries to prove by stating, on page 31, that Mr. Appleby, our distributing agent, is a Liberal. In proof of this he produced a post card signed "E. C. Appleby, secretary Ward One Liberal Association." But when I asked for the date of that post card, he was not honest enough to give any date but the year 1914, for Mr. Appleby resigned from the Liberal party on February 9th, 1914, and has since become president of one of the largest labor unions in this city, and a most active spirit in bringing out labor candidates. Yet Mr. Bowser insists the pamphlet is partisan and bolsters his argument with such proofs. (Applause.)

The second great issue that Mr. Bowser entirely dodges is the alienation of the coal resources of this country. You may say, he deals with that. But I reply he does nothing of the sort. He cleverly avoids it by again attacking Mr. Cotsworth, and stating that all our information was based upon his say-so. Now, I challenge Mr. Bowser to find one syllable in all we have said on the question of coal that can even be twisted to prove his assertion. Our authorities are printed in every instance in black and white, and we took nothing whatever on Cot-

worth's word. Our first authority was the B. C. Gazette, the government's official paper, and I have shown you that Geo. M. Beltrac put through every section of coal he staked for the B. C. Anthracite Co. of Quebec, although Mr. Howser says he got none of them. I make that statement on the authority of the manager of the B. C. Anthracite Company. (Applause.) Our next and chief authority was the full and technical report which I hold in my hand, made by Mr. Campbell-Johnston, mining engineer of this city, & Messrs. Kobes and Heaton to present to the Chicago Syndicate they tried to get to back them, when Sir Donald Mann failed to dispose of their lands in England. This professional report, made after an exhaustive survey of the whole area, definitely states that these two men, who, I understand keep a saloon at Coquitlam, own 145 sq. miles or 92,800 acres, instead of 60,000 as Mr. Bowser says. (Cries of Shame!) The price stated here is \$10.00 per acre, and if those men have kept their licenses or leases in good standing, I have legal opinion that they can complete their purchase at \$10 per acre.

Tries to Blind Public.

Mr. Bowser also asserts that "not a single crown grant of coal has been issued in the Ground Hog Basin," the only trying to blind the public to the real facts, that the government has issued shoals of licenses, and that men like Panvini, whose original letter we print, can trade in these licenses to the extent of millions, while no less than 11 great syndicates have been formed to exploit these coal lands, as proved by these maps in our possession. (Applause.)

There again he flounders helplessly when he touches figures. He tells us, on page 32, that in 10 years the total coal lands licensed, leased and granted only come to 1,022,863 acres. Why, in one year only, 1911, the area under license alone was 1,500,000 acres. (Applause.) Here is the statement from the minister of lands' report for that year, page 6: "For the year the number of licenses issued totalled 2,223, which amounts in acreage close upon 1,500,000 acres." Again, I ask, who has most carefully "verified all statements made?"

The third great issue entirely avoided by Mr. Bowser is the exploitation of timber resources. He mentions "Timber" and then runs off to quote what this and that outside authority has said in a general way about our timber resources and laws. He then informs us that the department's legislation has been based on the re-