

An immediate response is necessary if this action is to have all the effect that is hoped for from it.

For the Executive,

JOHN L. TODD, President.
WILLIAM STEWART, Secretary.

Remittances should be addressed to Mr. George C. McDonald, 179 St. James Street, Montreal.

A splendid response to the appeal has already been received, and the subscriptions are coming in very rapidly. Letters from Sir Wilfred Laurier, Hon. Mr. Doherty, Minister of Justice, Chief Justice Sir Charles Davidson, Dr. F. D. Adams and many other prominent McGill graduates have been received, heartily approving of the movement.

THE CANADIAN COPPER COMPANY'S DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY *

By E. T. Corkill, Safety Engineer.

In July, 1913, the Canadian Copper Co. organized a Department of Safety, for the purpose of accident prevention. The work of this department is largely in charge of the safety engineer, working in conjunction with the Central Safety Committee. This committee consists of the following: President, Vice-President, General Superintendent, Superintendent of Mines, Smelter Superintendent, Chief Physician and Safety Engineer.

The general superintendent is chairman of the committee, and the safety engineer secretary. Meetings are held during the first week of each month for consideration of the monthly accident report of the safety engineer, and recommendations brought forward for accident prevention. At these meetings the accidents occurring during the month preceding are discussed, and ways and means devised for the prevention of similar accidents wherever this is possible.

In addition to this Central Committee, Workmen's Safety Committees have been formed throughout the different departments. These committees consist of from five to seven men, depending on the size of the department, and meet every two weeks. The safety engineer meets with these committees and keeps a record of all their recommendations, advising them at a subsequent meeting as to the disposition of these recommendations. Since the organization of these committees many recommendations have been received and fully 90 per cent. have been carried out. The work of these committees from the smelter, mechanical and transportation departments has been exceptionally good. The mines committees have not been so successful, owing to the preponderance of foreign labor. The duty of each committee is to take note of defects in machinery, buildings, methods of working or handling material, or of any conditions throughout the work which may be the cause of accidents to employees. Each member of committee is allowed the necessary time from his work to attend these meetings, and if he is on another shift he is allowed three hours time for attending.

Reports are made out by the doctor for every accident case he attends, giving date, nature of accident and probable period of disablement. This report is forwarded to the safety engineer. A notice is also sent by the doctor when the man is able to resume work, and a card also filled out and given to the in-

jured person to be presented to foreman or timekeeper, giving the date the man is allowed to resume work.

A foreman's report is also made out and forwarded to the safety engineer, giving full particulars of each accident. In this manner a full and complete record is obtained of all accidents that necessitate a workman laying off work.

As an encouragement to the men, and to stimulate interest in the safety work, a pennant is awarded to the building at the smelter that has the lowest accident rate for the month. A pennant is also awarded the mine that has the lowest accident rate.

A comparison of the accident rate for the year beginning July 1st, 1913, when the safety department was created, and ending June 30th, 1914, with the corresponding period of the preceding year, shows the following:

Number fatalities per 1,000 men employed—1.98 or decrease of 74.7 per cent.

Serious accidents per 1,000 men employed—18.2 or decrease of 35 per cent.

Minor accidents per 1,000 men employed—69.7 or decrease of 18.3 per cent.

The present system of having a doctor's report made out for every accident insures the reporting of every accident by the foreman to the safety engineer. Before the safety department was formed a large number of minor accidents were not reported. The decrease of 18.3 per cent. in these accidents should, therefore, be much greater.

All the fatal accidents during the year occurred in the mines. The accident decrease in the various departments is as follows:

Mines Department—Fatal accidents, 54 per cent. decrease; serious accidents, 31 per cent. decrease; minor accidents, 9 per cent. increase.

Smelter Department—Fatal accidents, none, compared with three for preceding year; serious accidents, 44 per cent. decrease; minor accidents, 48 per cent. decrease.

Mechanical Department—None, compared with one for preceding year; serious accidents, 49 per cent. decrease; minor accidents, 25 per cent. decrease.

Transportation Department—Fatal accidents, none, compared with three for preceding year; serious accidents, 75 per cent. decrease; minor accidents, 80 per cent. decrease.

Electrical Department—Fatal accidents, None, compared with one for preceding year; serious accidents, same; minor accidents, 75 per cent. decrease.

The greatest decreases have been in those departments that employ the larger number of English-speaking men. The mines employ about 80 per cent. foreign labor, most of whom cannot speak English. It is, therefore, with great difficulty that any headway is made with these men in the work of accident prevention, and the reduction of accidents in the mines will be correspondingly slow.

THE COLORADO STRIKE.

President Wilson has submitted a plan for a three years' truce to all parties in the Colorado mining strike, during which the state mining and labor laws shall be enforced, with restoration to employment of all striking miners not found guilty of violation of the laws. Intimidation of non-union or union men is to be prohibited and wage scales are to be posted at each mine. A grievance committee is to be chosen by employees of each mine, entrusted with treating with the employer when trouble arises.

*From report of T. H. Sutherland, Chief Inspector of Mines of Ontario, July, 1914.