

made practicable. The present strike situation does not alter the intention of the companies in that regard. It is known to the companies that a large number of their underground employees do not want the eight-hour day, and are opposed to it, but we will state to you that if the eight-hour day for our underground employees is desired by them, or a sufficient majority of them, it will continue to be given favourable consideration.

**"The One-man Drill Question** is purely and simply a manufactured grievance. We know it to be the fact that those who operate these drills do not want them abolished. The continuation of mining industry in this district requires the use and application of every modern appliance for the reduction of cost. It is made necessary by the low copper contents of the rock and the expense of deep mining, as compared with higher production of other competing districts. The one-man drill is an economic necessity which has come to stay. The conditions of its use have been prescribed by the Legislature, and the question of its abolition is one which could not be submitted to arbitrators.

**"As to the Minimum Wage Question,** the conditions at the different mines vary to such a large extent that no scale can be adopted applicable to all the different conditions. This has been impossible in the past and will continue impossible in the future, and would be as unfair to the labourers themselves as to the companies.

**"We greatly regret that the situation is such as to render the plan of arbitration or of conference with a committee or with representatives of the Western Federation of Miners an impossibility to us. With the elimination of that organization, arbitration or mediation would become wholly unnecessary, as we are convinced that there would be no difficulty in adjusting satisfactorily all questions that might arise between our employees and the respective companies by whom they are employed. Dated at Houghton, Michigan, Sept. 20, 1913."**—Mining Gazette.

### PHILADELPHIA MEETING OF MINING CONGRESS.

Manufacturers of mining machinery, rescue and first-aid apparatus and safety appliances, are to be given an opportunity to display their wares before the mining men of the country at a great industrial exposition, to be held under the auspices of the American Mining Congress, in Philadelphia, Pa., the week of October 20th.

This exposition, the first of its kind in America, will be held in conjunction with the annual convention of Mining Congress, and the double attraction is expected to attract thousands of interested men. There is a tentative plan to have a gold mining camp in full operation, with a mill crushing the ore. Horticultural Hall, the biggest place of its kind in Philadelphia, situated in the heart of the city, has been engaged for the occasion.

While the plans are still in embryo, a number of the leading manufacturers have already been approached and have shown sufficient enthusiasm to lead to the belief that all of the space will be taken in a short time and that there may not be enough to take care of all who apply.

A number of the big coal companies that have developed the "Safety First" movement at their mines, are now negotiating for large amounts of space, to show the mining men and the public what they are doing in behalf of their men. These companies will

send rescue and first-aid crews, and there is talk of exhibition drills between the various crews. The United States Bureau of Mines will be represented by one of its safety cars and a picked crew of helmet men. The State of Illinois and a number of the big anthracite companies, may send rescue cars for exhibition purposes.

"This exposition will not only be of untold value to the mining men of the country," said James F. Callbreath, Secretary of the Congress, "but it will also show the magnitude of the industry to the entire country. We know that it is a gigantic industry, second only to agriculture, employing directly more than a million and a half men, and with a yearly output of two billion dollars, but the public has never given it the recognition it deserves. The convention which will be held at the same time as the exposition will be the most important body of mining men ever gathered together. The industry has been making great strides in the last few years, and a number of problems have arisen that are to be discussed straight from the shoulder."

The Convention is to be the first get-together affair of all the mining interests of the country, and an attempt is to be made to show the need of a stronger national organization, that will represent all phases of the industry and lead to the placing of the industry in the important place it belongs. Perhaps the leading topic of the Convention will be the new system of mine taxation recently put in operation in some States and being discussed in others at the present time. The West can unite with the East upon this proposition, for Colorado and Arizona have new taxation laws for the mines, and so have Pennsylvania and Michigan. Colorado mining men are claiming that they are doubly taxed, and that their industry will suffer. Arizona is making similar claims, and it is understood that Michigan is very much dissatisfied. An increase in the price of Pennsylvania coal is threatened by reason of the new tax law in that State.

Altogether, the exposition and the convention promise to bring together a great gathering of mining men, and much good is expected from its deliberations.

### RAMBLER-CARIBOO.

A meeting of directors of the Rambler-Cariboo Mines, Limited, was held in Spokane, Washington, U. S.A., on September 10, when reports that had quite lately come from the company's mine manager were submitted. The president of the company, Mr. A. F. McLaine, has been quoted as authority for the statement that the company's net profits are now more than \$10,000 a month, with prospects of still better results shortly. The company's silver-lead mine and concentrating mill are in the Slocan district, British Columbia. The mine has been opened to a depth of about 1,425 feet below the apex of the vein, and ore is being stoped on four or five levels down to and including that depth.

### ALBERTA COAL.

The first session of the third Alberta Legislature was opened at Edmonton, Alberta, on September 16. It is noteworthy that in the "speech from the throne," as printed in the newspapers, there was not a single word of reference to the mining industry of the province. Yet, according to statistics supplied to the Canada Department of Mines by Mr. John T. Stirling, Provincial Inspector of Mines, Alberta in 1912 produced 3,446,349 tons of coal, valued at \$8,471,126.