

effect, but thinks the law does not increase the cost of operating, and believes the eight hour day is better for the company financially, and he says he has found none of the operators now desiring to have the day longer than eight hours, and he is even more strongly in favor of the eight hour law than the Chief Inspector. The inspector of the West Kootenay district thinks the eight hour law does decrease the output, but does not think it is injurious to mining industries, and thinks an eight hour law in mining is desirable.

Mr. Henahen, Commissioner of Mines, Colorado, where the eight hour law has been in force since 1904, thinks the law does not raise the cost of operating and that such a law is desirable in mining. He says the workmen favor it, and that the metalliferous mine operators generally favor it also. Mr. Bartholomew, Secretary of the Bureau of Mines, Missouri, which has had the eight hour law since 1899, is not prepared to answer as to the effect of the law on the output, but says the men and the operators generally favor its existence, and that he thinks it is desirable to have such a law. Inspector Walsh, of Montana, where the eight hour law came into force in 1907, does not think it raises the cost of operating and says that the men and in most cases the operators favor its existence, and his opinion is that the law is desirable in mining. Inspector Jones, of Wyoming, says the 8-hour law raises the cost of operating at first, but thinks, with proper adjustments to meet the altered conditions, this can be more than offset. He says the men favor its existence, but that the operators are not favorable to outside regulation. He thinks the law is desirable. State Inspector Bell, of Idaho, thinks the 8-hour law raises the cost of operating proportionately and decreases the output of the mine, but that the men and most of the operators favor its existence, and he thinks such a law is desirable in mining. State Mineralogist Storms, of California, where the 8 hour law has been in force since 1909, thinks it raises the operating tonnage cost and undoubtedly decreases the output. He says the men generally favor its existence, but some of the operators are opposed to it. He thinks, generally speaking, such a law is desirable in mining.

Mr. Sutherland (now Assistant Inspector of Mines in Ontario), who has had extensive practical experience in a number of the mining districts of the west, says the men and he thinks, generally, the operators favor the existence of the 8-hour law where it is in force, and he thinks it does not decrease the output of the mines and that it is not injurious to the mining industry.

As to the operation and effect of the 8-hour law in England, where it went into force in 1909 and 1910, all the information I have obtained has been derived from the inspectors' official reports and from information which Sir George Askwith, of the Industrial Commissioner's Department, has been kind enough to give me. It seems that owing to the customs and privileges which had grown up in different parts of the country some friction occurred at first as to a number of matters, but the law seems now to be working pretty smoothly. The comparatively short time it has been in force and the other labor disturbances that have occurred and the changes that have been made in other respects make it difficult to tell what are its effects. It does not appear to have decreased the output, but the chief inspector, while thinking there has been an increase in the working cost per ton, says it is impossible to say how far this is due to the operation of the "Eight Hours" Act. On the whole it would not appear that any very material economic effects are attributed to the operation of the law.