

view of the wording of some of the leases. The Herald, regardless of consistency accuses the Liberal government for having increased the royalty in 1893 to the Dominion Coal Co. to 12 1-2c., an increase it says of 66 per cent—robbery and extortion. Whereas in 1893 it denounced the government for having made large concessions to the coal company for a miserable 12 1-2c. per ton.

In the article referred to the Herald sapiently, yet superfluously says:—"It is also universally known that every dollar of this increased taxation through increased coal royalties has fallen upon the people of this Province, and been taken out of their own pockets."

This is a fact that must never be lost sight of in considering this matter of coal Royalties and the increase therein."

The Herald has made an important discovery—that of a mare's nest. Will the Herald please run through the entire catalogue, and point out in either federal or local affairs, a single item of income that does not come directly or indirectly out of the pockets of the people. The Herald has surely seen the picture of the soldier, the bishop and the workman—representing the people at large, with the legends written underneath, "I fight for all," "I pray for all," "I PAY for all."

It is a little surprising that the Herald, claiming to be endowed with a little intelligence should have been carried away by the false doctrine of the Free Coal League, and other, equally ill informed, of its correspondents. Says the Herald:

"It is true that all the coal upon which the new rates Royalty are paid is not consumed in this Province, and, hence it might, with some show of reason, be contended that part of the Coal Royalties are ultimately paid by the consumers of this coal abroad, in other Provinces or countries."

But the contention would be false, because it is an indisputable fact that the coal that is exported to other Provinces or countries is sold at such low prices as to afford no profit worth speaking of, or so little profit that, practically, all the Royalties paid by our coal companies have to be paid out of the profits taken by them out of the pockets of the people of this Province."

Such language is utter foolishness. The coal exported by the Dominion Coal Co., and by the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co., to name no others, is incomparably more profitable trade than that done by them in the provinces. One of the railways is taking from the Dom. Coal Co. this year, the large quantity of 350,000 tons. The price is, of course much less than a Halifax contract of 5000 tons would be, but the Herald can be assured of this, that if it can produce a customer in Halifax, that will buy not 350,000, but 200,000 tons and, take quick delivery—that is within six months, he will not only get his coal as cheap as the railways, but cheaper.

The Herald, having a job office, ought to know something of the part quantity plays in fixing prices. For instance for 100 dodges it would charge at the least fifty cents, whereas for a thousand it would not charge more than two fifty or twenty five cents a hundred, a difference of fifty per cent.

The Herald caps the climax in the following paragraph:—"The prevailing high prices is due to

the increased taxation, about which the Government organ has the folly to boast, and monopoly or trust rates due to that Government having favored the creation of one Coal Company sufficiently powerful to dictate terms to all others."

It need hardly be mentioned that one of the serious results of the high price of coal in this Province, through the Liberal Government's legislation increasing taxation and favoring monopoly, is the heavy handicap it places on all manner of manufacturing industry in the Province."

It is quite possible had the liberal government known the far reaching effects the increased royalty was to have over all the world they would have paused. In every coal producing country in Europe the cost of coal has increased, all traceable, no doubt to the increase in royalty. In very few countries indeed, perhaps we might say only in the U.S. do manufacturing industries get cheaper coal than in N.S., and yet Germany with its dearer coal, and Britain too, yes, and the province of Quebec are making rapid industrial progress. Will the Herald say how the province would have raised revenue for roads, bridges, agriculture, education, railway, steamship and other services, but for increased royalty. The only other way would have been by increased taxation, and if the royalty makes the Herald ill, direct taxation would be the sure death of it.

- Rubs by Rambler.

Every man, woman and child, almost, is at heart a free trader. That is as much as to say that if there are two million grown up people in Canada, one million nine hundred and ninety thousand have a desire to smuggle. By hook and by crook they try to dodge the customs officials and evade customs duties. There is scarcely a passenger entering a United States port who does not make the declaration 'Nothing for duty.' There is scarcely a passenger entering Canada but tries to smuggle something in, and for that purpose resorts to every imaginable device. The tariff is responsible for infinitely more perjury than a prohibitory liquor law, the desire is to smuggle,—in plain English—and yet the law against smuggling is very stringent. See, leads to an awful amount of perjury, should it not be abrogated. Very few will be rash enough to say that it should. Do you say the cases are not parallel, well, show how not. There is no such thing as liberty of the subject in matters affecting the welfare of the community. A person with a contagious disease and the persons living in a house where there is an infected person have the desire to roam about, but the law prohibits them. They are restrained for the good of the community. And is not liquor selling a worse moral yes and physical pestilence than small pox. Not to follow this phrase of the subject further it may be said that all law is restraint.

'Are you not right' No you silly body you are not. Did not one know you to be an inoffensive temperance man he would almost be justified in concluding that