

American newspapers, that several of them helped to spread Mr. Moyer's false assertions.

Not content with this performance, which might be expected to arouse the strikers to further and more terrible deeds of violence, Mr. Moyer shocked the community by ordering the families of the victims of the disaster to accept no aid from the Relief Committee, which had been hurriedly organized by the citizens. Subscriptions amounting to \$25,000 were soon received by this committee, and the members endeavored to give immediate help to those in need. In spite of the fact that many of the families are in great distress, they are afraid to accept any aid from the committee.

There is little in the strike of miners in Michigan to suggest that its object is the betterment of conditions for the workmen. The demands which have been made, in so far as they relate to improved conditions, have already been met. The one demand which has not even been considered is that the Western Federation be recognized as representing the employes. There were last July many reasons why this demand should be refused. There are now several hundred more reasons, and the recent acts of Mr. Moyer are among them.

To Canadians the strikes on Vancouver Island and in Michigan have important lessons. It is recognized in the mining industry that the men should have the right to organize and by any lawful means endeavor to obtain higher wages and improved conditions. Most of our miners are foreigners, and many of them are not in the habit of studying conditions very carefully. It is natural for them to leave the leadership in labor disputes to the officers and agitators of the labor unions. The unfortunate fact is that the officers of the two unions allied with the American Federation of Labor have proven and are proving themselves unworthy.

Under the circumstances it is not surprising to learn that the Michigan mine managers have refused to recognize the Federation, and that the men at work, who far outnumber the men on strike, have asked that Federation members be not employed in the mines.

The excuse given for calling the strike is that the men should receive a minimum wage, that the length of shift should be reduced to eight hours, and that the one-man drill should be abolished.

The objection to the one-man drill is nonsense. The eight-hour shift is required by law, and was put in force before it was required. The adoption of a minimum wage for all the mines, would, in the opinion of those who know the conditions, be unfair to several of the companies.

It is evident, therefore, that the object of the strike is recognition of the Federation. According to the union officers the number of members of the Federation in the copper district when the strike was called

was 9,000, and 7,600 voted in favor of a strike. If we assume that the figures are reliable and that they mean that two-thirds of the 13,500 men employed by the copper mining companies are members of the Federation, there seems to be some reason for the Federation officers asking for recognition as representatives of the miners. If the officers have a clean record behind them and are able to show clearly that they voice the wishes of two-thirds of the employes, the mine managers should be willing to treat with them. The Western Federation is the only metal miners' union which the American Federation of Labor recognizes, and it is natural that the men prefer to join this organization on account of its national character.

To conclude that the mine managers should recognize the Federation it is necessary to assume that the Federation has a reasonably clean record and that a large majority of the employes of the Michigan copper companies are, or were on July 23, members of the Federation. Unfortunately for the strikers, neither of these assumptions is true.

R. W. BROCK TO BE DEPUTY MINISTER

A despatch from Ottawa states that Mr. R. W. Brock, Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, has been appointed Deputy Minister of Mines to succeed Mr. A. P. Low, who resigned some time ago. Mr. Brock, who has been Director of the Geological Survey since 1908, was formerly Professor of Geology at Queen's University. He studied at Toronto, Queen's and Heidelberg Universities, and joined the Geological Survey in 1897. His field work was chiefly in British Columbia, and he made a very useful study of the geology of the Rossland district.

Mr. Brock is well qualified for the position of Deputy Minister, and his friends will be pleased to learn of his appointment.

CASEY-COBALT.

A satisfactory report was presented to the shareholders of the Canadian Casey-Cobalt Mining Company in London last week. The company has had a prosperous year. Not only was the output of the property a little more than doubled, but considerable extensions were made in the plant. One feature was the building of a transmission line from New Liskeard, which enabled electrically driven equipment to be installed.

The mill was thus increased from a capacity of 30 tons a day to 80 tons a day. The total ounces shipped in 1913 were 607,621, as compared with 274,066 in the preceding year. The balance of \$317,636.23 was carried forward to the credit of profit and loss, out of which subsequently a dividend was paid of \$109,499.33. The total assets of the company, other than mining properties, at the end of the year, were \$457,612.45. The officers and directors were re-elected as follows: W. R. P. Parker, President; J. H. Watson, Vice-President; R. E. G. Van Cutsem and G. M. Clark; C. H. C. Leggett, Secretary-Treasurer.