

some of us were paralyzed by the opposition of certain important members to the admission of labour questions into the deliberations of the association, and others of us fairly gave up the conundrum when we seemed to gather from Mr. Hobson that the California association had not admitted the discussion of labour questions and yet had triumphed, especially in the allying and eradicating of such troubles.

At this the creature winked loudly, and a voice we are beginning to know said, "Good old Hobson, but it won't go," and it did not. The creature said that the settlement of labour troubles was its peculiar province: that it was going down to Fernie right away to settle that trouble, and the Minister of Mines patted it on its back saying, "Good old horse, I'll pay your exes," and he did.

What, then, is the net outcome of the whole matter? We think that it is this. Thanks to a very whole-souled friend of British Columbia and of mining generally (Mr. Hobson) who being Irish, is naturally a little florid about his millions, the Mining Association has been born, and because it really is composed of all classes directly and indirectly connected with mining, and is not dependent upon votes which can be bought for its existence, it is wonderfully representative of the people, fair and level headed, anxious to get at facts for itself, intolerant of gas bags and people who want to do its thinking for it, and being British, suspicious of those who speak lightly of constituted authorities and precedent.

Altogether we believe that it has voiced exactly the mind not only of the mining classes but of those other classes whose interests have also to be considered. We have heard what the miners want and how far the farmers and others consider those wants to be reasonable. We have threshed out these matters before a body in which the mine owners and mine workers and the farmers, have sat side by side, and possibly the two first may have learned that the farmer would make the best possible referee between mine owner and mine worker, because his prosperity depends upon the peace between them and his sympathies are as much with the man as with the manager.

He himself is a small capitalist who in this country must do his own work or fail, *i. e.*, he is man and manager.

Our success so far amounts to this: We have formed a really representative body of the people who in British Columbia are interested directly or indirectly in mining: in that body we have formed committees giving all classes and all divisions reasonable representation: we have elected a Chairman who has our entire confidence: we have at our first meeting punctured the gas bag eloquent; smiled down the unconsidered accusations of the intemperate employee; sat upon the employer who wanted to run the whole show contrary to the wishes of those more vitally interested than himself; turned a deaf ear to the man who wanted to make party capital on the floor of our house; taught ourselves that what we want is short speeches with merit in them, and that what the public wants is a spirit of level headed, absolute fair play for all.

The world has been taught that life is strong in the mining industry of British Columbia: that it is quite brave enough to look its limitations and failures in the face and admit them; quite hopeful enough to believe that the remedy for them is simple and in its own hands, and quite sufficiently experienced and intelligent to form an adequate advisory board for legislators who want to legislate for the country's good.

We believe that the Government realizes the value to them of the new instrument if properly used and its danger to them if misused or neglected.

Finally, we have one word only of suggestion to our own association.

Would the gentlemen who "have recently been in contact with the vast aggregation of capital," and those who have many millions of European money behind them, as well as that gentleman who can pour himself several millions into Cariboo, come to stay with the writer and bring certified cheques.

Mr. S. F. Parrish, M.E., recently appointed General Manager of the Le Roi mine, at Rossland, is an engineer of wide experience and of great ability. For twenty-four years he was engaged in mining in Colorado, in charge of extensive operations at Leadville and



Mr. S. F. Parrish, M.E.,

elsewhere, filling the positions of superintendent and manager under the Crysolite Silver Mining Co. and the Yak Mining, Milling and Tunnel Company. Prior to his present appointment Mr. Parrish was in charge of the B. C. Chartered Co.'s mine at Eholt.