LABOR ATTACKED SAYS MR. GOMPERS

Finds Cause for Present Unrest in Labor World in Combination of Forces Antagonistic to Workingmen

COST OF LIVING GREATLY INCREASED

Employees of New York Central Railway System Score Point—Erie Road Engineers Ask More Wages

WASHINGTON, March 17.—The unrest in the world of labor at the present time is attributed by President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor to a combination of forces antagonistic to the cause of labor, designed to crush the rights of the workingmen. While not divulging he plans of the labor organization, he said in an interview today that everything possible would be done by them to protect the intergsts of the working masses. Although wages had not generally decreased, he said the enormous advance in the cost of living in the past five years had rendered conditions tantamount to a decrease in compensation of the working classes.

Another Railway Grievance.

NEW YORK, March 17.—Twenty representatives of engineers of Erie railroad called upon J. C. Stewart general manager and vice president of the Erie railroad, to present demands for increased wages. The conference this afternoon was preliminary, and conferences will extend over several days.

Union employes of the New York Central system won a decided concession from the railroad at today's conference between representatives of the company and the union on the demands of the men for an increased wage and better working conditions. For the first time in these negotiations, which have been in progress since last December, President W. G. Lee of the brotherhood of railroad trainmen, and President A. B. Garretson, of the order of railroad conductors, were recognized as the spokesmen for the unions, and were admitted to active participation in the discussion. The recognition of the national officers of the unions is regarded by the men as an important concession for them.

The conference was joined today by representatives of the union from various cities of the middle west. Among them were delegates from the Michigan Central, the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, the Big Four and the Boston and Albany. The negotiations up to this time have been conducted directly by representatives from the New York Central, but with the arrival of these delegates all the lines of the system will be represented and the agreement reached will affect the entire New York Central system. The conference today continued its work along the lines of the tacit agreement reached yesterday, calling for concessions on both sides with an increase in wages and change in working schedules for the men.

FRUIT GROWING AREAS TO BE WELL COVERED

Experimental Orchards Will Be Located in Typical Sections of the Different Districts of the Province

No time is to be lost by the Provincial Department of Agriculture in the establishment of the complete series of demonstration orchards decided upon by the Government and for which an appropriation of $10,000 was made during the recent session of Parliament. Mr. W. D. Scott, the Deputy-Minister, being at present engaged in an investigation of conditions in all parts of the province in which fruit growing on a comprehensive scale and with profit is found to be practicable. It is in connection with this mission of preliminary investigation that the Deputy-Minister leaves for the Kootenay on the 29th instant, having already visited the Okanagan and one or two nearer districts.

As roughly blocked out, the establishment plan contemplates the placing of two experimental orchards on Vancouver Island—one in the vicinity of Victoria and the other one either near Nanaimo or in the Comox district. There will also be two on the lower Mainland, on either side of the Fraser presumably, Hammond being the location favored for the one to be put in. Of the two for Yale-Kamloops, one will be in the locality of Kamloops and the other in the neighborhood of Penneys or Savonas. The Okanagan will necessarily have three, and while it has been suggested that these be placed at Vernon, Summerland and Kelowna, their exact location is still a matter for determination, Armstrong having advanced strong claims for recognition in the presence of conditions distinctly dissimilar to those prevailing down by the lake and where irrigation may be unnecessary. Three will also be allotted to Kootenay, of which one will be planted in the vicinity of Creston. The location of the others will be determined by the Deputy Minister upon the completion of his tour through the district.

On the Skeena

It will also be imperative that the upper Skeena country show have one demonstration orchard, the neighborhood of Kitsumgalem and the Lakelse valley being regarded as one of the most promising fruit districts of the province. Lying about 100 miles distant from Prince Rupert, conditions are totally dissimilar to those obtaining near that terminal port. The climate is equable and the rainfall considerably less than on southern Vancouver island, while the winters are far from severe. All the old orchards put in by Hudson's Bay Co. pioneers, and practically uncared for since their planting, are still yielding fruit of very superior quality and size. The wild fruits, too, attest the possibilities of the district with no uncertainty, strawberries ripening in profusion in their season, while wild raspberries may be picked along the trails as large as any of the cultivated varieties. Practically identical conditions favorable to fruit growing are stated to prevail in the Fort George country, which like that of the upper Skeena could scarcely be more favorably placed in regard to transportation facilities giving command of a large portion of the prairie markets, as well as the temporary but especially profitable construction camps market and the permanent market of Prince Rupert.

The system adopted in connection with these demonstration orchards is perhaps not generally understood by the public. They are not government experimental orchards operated on the experimental farm principle. A selection is made of a typical location; the ground is carefully prepared; and the government selects, provides and plants the orchard trees, the owner being bound to care for and cultivate the orchard in accordance with the instructions given by the provincial horticulturist. The latter will visit the orchard at frequent intervals, and will be always available upon call to assist in the solution of any difficulty that may present itself. The public will at all times have access to the orchard, which will be in effect a normal school in fruit growing.

Vancouver Island

According to the deputy minister, no section of the province offers superior inducements to the fruit grower who strives intelligently for business success than does Vancouver island. In winter apples, perhaps, the palm must be conceded to the interior mainland, but nowhere are better returns to be earned than on the island with cherries, plums, pears and miscellaneous small fruits. The business, like any other, however, must be specialized, and prosecuted with perseverance, intelligence and continuity.

Another related feature of the department work that is proving a huge success is that of the fruit packing schools. These were inaugurated in the Okanagan, the Okanagan Fruit Growers' Association lending the services of an experienced packer as instructor. It is now he intention of the department to extend the facilities, and advantages of these packing schools structor. It is now the intention of the province. Attention to a two weeks' course of five hours a day is sufficient to make any boy or girl an expert packer, and in a position to solve the orchard labor problem to a considerable extent, while vastly improving his or her own wage-earning position. It has not been pickers that have been so greatly in demand in the past as an expert packer, for the skill of the expert packer adds dollars to the market value of the orchard output.

STOCK EXCHANGE TO OPERATE HERE

Local Syndicate Acquires Old Charter at Nominal Sum and Will Open in Business Soon

Illustrative of the growth of the commercial life of Victoria is the fact that a stock exchange is about to be established in the city. Close upon thirteen years ago the only stock exchange which ever operated here, practically ceased to exist, although its charter was never cancelled. Those interested in the new venture have bought out all the seats in the old exchange and will commence business on their own account in the course of the next few weeks.

The negotiations proceeding the taking over of the old charter were of an interesting character. Two factions were at work trying to acquire the rights necessary to enable them to start in business. A merely nominal sum was asked for each seat in the old exchange but one of the syndicates at work, through the advice of its lawyer, was unwilling to pay any money, on the grounds that a resolution to wind up had been passed by the old stock exchange immediately proceeding the time it ceased operations. The other syndicate agreed to pay the price asked, and has thus become possessed of the chater.

All classes of stocks will be dealt with on the new exchange. It is understood that the scene of the operations has not yet been selected. Efforts are being made to interest some of the leading business men in the venture.

The Northwest Council of Printers held their annual convention recently in Hoquiam. The convention decided to divide the northwest into districts for the purpose of facilitating the work of the conference and plans were endorsed to place an organizer east of the mountains. A. W. Swenson of Spokane was re-elected president of the conference for the ensuing year, and George B. Dunn of Tacoma was elected secretary. The typos intend to thoroughly organize the northwest, and particular attention will be paid to unionizing shops in the smaller cities and towns.

After being on strike for two years, the union tile layers and the tile layers' helpers, of the Pittsburg district, have reached an amicable adjustment with the Tile Dealers' association. The strike has been called off, and the men have returned to work. The strike began January 1, 1908. The new agreement and wage scale are to be in effect five years. The agreement provides for an eight-hour day. The tile layers will be paid $4.80 per day. All car fare is to be paid by the employer if the job is located more than one-half mile from the shop. Wages of apprentices will be $3.25 a day for the first six months; $3.50 for the second six; $4 for the third, and $4.40 for the fourth half year. Tile layers' helpers will be paid at the minimum rate of $2.50 per day. It is also agreed that sympathetic strikes will not be considered a violation of the agreement when three days' notice has been given the employer.

HOUSE OF LORDS REFORM NOT YET

Lord Rosebery's Resolutions Are Referred to Committee —Advocates of Reform Differ as to Methods

LONDON, March 17.—The House of Lords tonight referred Lord Rosebery's resolutions looking to the reform of the chamber to a committee, which will consider them next week.

The tenor of the debate today shows that there is more moral than practical sympathy in the House with the reform idea, and those supporting Lord Rosebery advanced such different views on the manner in which the reform should be carried out that if reform is ever achieved from within it will certainly prove a long and troublesome process and be likely to leave the House as much a hereditary chamber as before.

Lord Lansdowne in a speech today gave a modified support to Lord Rosebery's scheme, but spoke strongly for the retention of the hereditary principle. He advocated the election of a reduced house of Peers themselves and the exclusion of any colonial representatives. He agreed that new blood was wanted, but preferred life peerages by the King's nomination to Lord Rosebery's suggestion of election by county councils.

In the meantime Premier Asquith's resolutions on the veto question are promised for next week.

The House of Commons today passed the second reading of the bill under which the Indian government seeks power to raise $125,000,000 for irrigation development, for commercial, not strategical purposes.

ONTARIO HOUSE WINDS UP SESSION

Large Number of Bills Passed in Its 38 Days—Eight Hour Bill Hoisted on Premier Whitney's Motion

TORONTO, March 18.—The business of the session of the Ontario Legislature was concluded today after an unusually long sitting, and the formal ceremoney of prorogation will take place on Saturday. The session which is just closing has not been marked by very much important legislation, the telephone bill and Premier Whitney's amendment to the Ontario railway act being probably the most important.

One hundred and sixty-eight bills were passed in the 38 working days which the session lasted. Last year there were 165 bills passed in the same number of days. As usual, adjournment was followed by the singing of the National Anthem, its conclusion being the signal for a shower of paper.

In the legislature this afternoon Premier Whitney moved to give the eight hour labor bill a six months' hoist. Hon. A. G. McKay moved in amendment that "a commission be appointed to inquire into the status of labor in the province of Ontario and report as to what legislation can be introduced to ameliorate the conditions of the wage earner." On division the Premier's motion carried by 47 to 20.

Here and There

To prove that the world is better now than it was a century ago, a Boston professor has written an article to show that many of those who are looked upon as national heroes by the people of the United States were very far from being saints. The man who undertakes to drag our heroes from their pedestals has a thankless task, and it may well be questioned if it be a worthy one. The man whom the judgment of a people has exalted may not have been perfect, but they were worthy of honor. Nor does it tend to make us better to dwell on their small defects rather than to reverence their great virtues and admire their noble deeds.

We see enough of the weaknesses and the imperfections of those among whom we live. We are all too apt to forget the generosity of a friend because of a petulant word, or to think more of a single failure than of years of successful effort. Let us keep the perspective which the passing of the years has given and see the grandeur or the figure without its blemishes.

The care for the preservation of child life as well as for the good and happiness of the little ones is a marked feature of this century. Just now it is showing itself in the efforts that are being made in great cities to supply the babies of poor mothers with the pure milk that is for them a necessary of existence. In New York the great philanthropist Nathan Strauss has placed pasteurised milk within the reach of mothers of the tenement houses.

A Presbyterian minister, realizing that the needs of the little ones whose mothers were in better circumstances, though still far from rich, set the women of his congregation to work to prepare the milk for them in the church parlor. The experiment began last July, and has been very successful. Mothers were eager to buy milk which they knew to be wholesome. In the course of the work the women of the congregation were brought together, and women of leisure learned that there were other ways in which they could help the overburdened mothers. Other churches have followed the example set by the congregation of the Rev. Allen McCurdy, and milk stations in New York are increasing.

In Toronto the Household Economic association is engaged in similar work. The report of the milk commission has aroused the public to the risks which are run when babies are fed with the milk usually supplied. But in that city milk which is perfectly clean costs from 12 to 15 cents a quart. The aim of the association is to sell this to the mothers of babies at 8 cents a quart, or when necessary, to give it away. Appeals are being made to the charitable to send aid to the pure milk fund.

In Victoria we are very fortunate in being free from the great heat which in Eastern cities makes it so hard to keep milk fit for use. It would be interesting to know what the rate of infant mortality is, but it must be very low. At the same time, it is not too soon to take precautions to safeguard our supply of milk both by rigid dairy inspection and by regularly testing the milk. The giving of medals for butter is good, but it is even more important to encourage the dairymen to supply the citizens with pure, rich milk.

Condiments, we have been told again and again, should be banished from the tables of all those who want to be healthy. Most of us have been in the habit of taking our pepper and mustard, if we took them at all, with a feeling that we were doing something wrong and we even look upon salt with suspicion. But the lovers of well seasoned dishes may take heart of grace, for the London Lancet says: "Mustard, pepper, and salt, used, of course, in sensible amounts, assist the appetite, give a zest for food, and, partly by reflex action, as well as local action, stimulate the flow of digestive juices and ensure healthy assimilation."

Most people will be heartily thankful for this verdict of the greatest of British medical journals.

A Spokane observer, James Finlay, says that the sparrows have rid the trees of towns of South Dakota of caterpillars and that the codlin moth is unknown in Scotland, where sparrows are plentiful. He does not say, however, that the orchards of that country are visited by many other species of insect eating birds. At Olympia, he declares, they catch the flying ants and in Spokane he has seen the old birds feeding the young ones with worms from the ground at the foot of a tree. He advises those who want to judge the sparrows, to kill half a dozen and see whether or not their crops are full of insects, codlin moths and worms. If so, it would be very unwise to exterminate them. This is a common sense way of looking at the matter.

A medical journal published in India gives an account of the measures taken by the Salvation Army and other sanitaria for the cure of inebriates in that country. It states that it has been found wise to give a fruit and vegetable diet to the patients, as meat increases the craving for stimulants. The vegetarians of Canada are circulating the statement as a proof that their doctrines concerning diet are sound.

It may be perfectly true that in tropical countries meat should seldom be eaten. The practice of the natives of India and China would seem to agree with this. How far, however, this is caused by necessity it would be difficult to tell.

That the use of flesh as food in northern climes causes a craving for stimulants is a statement that would be very difficult to prove. In Canada, at least, few women take any strong stimulant although most eat meat. In places where women are badly nourished, as in the great cities of England and Scotland, drinking among women is common. The experience of many women, whose sons or husbands are drinking men, and of institutions for the reform of those who have fallen into intemperate habits, shows that good food and plenty of it will go far to suppress the craving for other stimulants. It is possible to eat too much meat—perhaps we could live without it; but the diet that is best suited for a hot country will not maintain the people of a temperate or a cold one in health. Canadians, on the whole, have no need to worry about their physical condition and women should not, without good reason, change the character of the food upon which so stalwart a people have been raised.

The tendency of women in a crowded street car to stand near the entrance seems not to be confined to Victoria. On every wet evening the conductors have to force their way through crowds, which if distributed over the car could stand comfortably. Usually it is the fault of the women who prevent the men from passing along. A Montreal woman complains that in that city, where crowded cars are the rule, the same practice causes inconvenience and discomfort to all passengers on the cars. Why do women do this?

An account of a meeting held recently in Montreal tempts one to paraphrase the Pharisee's prayer and give thanks that Victoria is not as other cities are. The meeting was called together by the Woman's Club and was addressed by Mrs. A. S. Taylor, Professor Dale, Dr. Adams, Rev. Hugh Pedley and others. Its purpose was to promote the spread of education among the children of the city. During the proceedings the astounding statement was made that 10,000 Canadian children in the city of Montreal are growing up in ignorance. Here, where practically every child is receiving an education, it seems a shocking thing that unless immediate steps are taken, there will be 10,000 illiterate men and women in one Canadian city. No wonder the thinking people of Montreal are alarmed at a state of affairs which is full of danger, not only to their own city but to the whole of Canada.

At a recent meeting of the Enderby Conservative Association, G. Rossman moved "that in the opinion of this association, the difficulties of Imperial federation have been discussed long enough, and it is time that practical steps should be taken for the inter-organization of the Empire; that we urge the Central Conservative Association to consider the matter, and to make a public pronouncement in favor of such definite plan of federation as may commend itself to their judgment." W. E. Banton moved, as an amendment, that copies of the resolution be forwarded to the various central associations in the province, at the same time urging them to instruct their respective delegates to the forthcoming Dominion Conservative convention to have inserted in the platform of the Conservative party of Canada a plank providing for a more aggressive initiative on the part of Canada in the furtherance of the policy of Imperial federation, and that in the meantime the resolution be laid over as regards the local association for further discussion at the next regular meeting. This, on being seconded by F. Hawes, was carried. F. H. Barnes was chosen as delegate from Enderby to the forthcomine Dominion Conservative convention at Ottawa, to be held in June. George Heggie being named as alternate.

Mr. John A. Wilson, from Moose Jaw, is in town on a business visit.

UNCERTAIN HOLD ON THEIR OFFICES

Members of Alberta Government Objected to Compromise With Insurgents in Order to Retain Power

EDMONTON, March 17.—The Alberta government is now in the position of having to compromise with the insurgents upon almost every question which comes up. After the humiliating exhibition in the house yesterday, when the government, under heavy pressure, conceded every point to the insurgents in their demand for a full investigation of the Great Waterways deal, chief among which concessions was that allowing the right of the insurgents to employ counsel, several members of the government side are said to be wavering, and the position of the government in these circumstances, hanging to office as they are by only three of a majority, is exceedingly precarious. It would be fatal to the government, it is felt on all hands, to allow any question to come to a vote in the house at this time, consequently the government is making every effort to compromise with the hope of smoothing things over. Tonight they are meeting in caucus to endeavor to meet the insurgents in their demands for an adjournment of the house until the Waterways enquiry is over. The government do not want this question to come to a vote in the house, for they would be sure to suffer defeat, if they opposed the proposal openly in the legislature.

The question of a railway commission, which shall handle the Great Waterways Railway, is another question on which it is believed the government is trying to compromise. The Premier has a resolution proposing himself, with Railway Engineer Jones and Deputy Minister of Public Works stocks, as the board. Smith, of the insurgents, has a resolution for an independent board, mentioning no one. McDougall, of the insurgents, is believed to have another resolution asking for the appointment of Stocks and Chalmers, Provincial Engineer, and Primrose, ex-Mounted Police Commissioner, of Macleod, as the board. Stocks refused some time ago to act, and it is believed the government is favorable to Primrose in his place.

The insurgents are not in a humor to concede any inch in their demands. They feel confident that they are gaining strength, and will stand out for what they want. Probably the government will agree to an adjournment for six weeks or so after the temporary estimates have been passed. All departments of the government are now out of funds, and no salaries are being paid.

MINING NEWS

Coal in British Columbia.

The coal produced in the Cordilleran region is almost entirely bituminous, and by far the greater part is of Cretaceous age. Coals of Tertiary age are known at a number of localities, as in the Nicola valley and near Princeton. The Tertiary coals are lignites, and sometimes form thick seams, as in the case of the Princeton area, where an 18-foot seam outcrops on the banks of the Similkameen river. The total coal produced in 1907 was in the neighbourhood of 3,000,000 tons. Though lignitiferous coals occur in the Yukon, on some of the Queen Charlotte group, within the basin of the Skeena river, and elsewhere, the main development of coal mining has, as yet, taken place on Vancouver Island, and within the Rocky mountains to the foothills to the east.

On Vancouver Island the coal seams occur in the upper part of the Cretaceous. Coal mining is concentrated in two areas on the east coast of the Island, known as the Comox and Nanaimo coal fields. The Comox field has an estimated area of about 300 square miles. At one mine, within a vertical section of 122 feet there are ten seams, with an aggregate thickness of about 28 feet, the thickest seam measuring 10 feet. In the Nanaimo field, there are, one varying in thickness from 5 feet to 20 feet, and the other from 3 to 5 feet, are being mined. The coals are all bituminous.

In the Rocky mountains and the foothills the Cretaceous coal measures occur as basins amongst the folded and faulted Palaeozoic and Mesozoic strata. The basins, generally stretching northwestward and southwestward, and sometimes for very long distances, are known to occur at intervals from the international boundary to the Athabasca river, a distance of over 200 miles. The coals within the Rocky mountains are bituminous varieties, in places passing into anthracite, as at the Bankhead and Anthracite mines in the Bow river valley. Eastwards, in the foot-hills, as the plains are approached and the regions of disturbance are left behind, the lignite coals of the members of the Cretaceous are gradually encouraged.

Within the mountain of the adjacent foothills, there are three coal horizons; the lowest occurs within the Kootenay formation, belonging to the base of the Cretaceous, possibly the summit of the Jurassic. The seams of the Elk river and the Crow's Nest lie within this horizon. The next group of productive measures is the Belly river, situated towards the top of the upper Cretaceous column. The highest group of coal measures lies in the Edmonton of early Tertiary age.

Some of the major coal basins, commencing with the more southerly, are as follows: The southern Elk river basin, with an area of about 300 square miles, and containing the mines at Fernie and Michel. In this basin there are at least 22 workable coal seams, having an aggergate thickness of 216 feet, and all lying within the Kootenay formation. The southern portion of the Elk river basin, separated from the southern division by a short gap, has approximately the same area and extends as a narrow band to the far north.

A short distance of the east river basin lies a series of basins known collectively as the Crow's Nest basin, which, with certain breakes, extend far to the north to join the Cascade basin that runs north of the Bow river. The Crow's Nest and Cascade basins lie in the Kootenay horizon, and in the south include the mines in Blairmore and Frank. In the southern basin 21 workable seams occur, with a total thickness of 125 feet of coal.

The Cascade basin, crossing the Bow river at Banff contains the Bankhead mine, at present the only anthracite producing mine in Canada. In the vicinity of Bow river, the Kootenay measures of the basin contain ten to fourteen workable seams, with from 75 to 100 feet of coal. Northward are other basins. On the coal seams with a combined thickness of 114 feet. Other coal basins of Kootenay age lie still further north, continuing at least as far as the Brazeau river and perhaps further.

Within the foothills to the east of the Rocky mountains proper, the Kootenay beds sometimes outcrop, as in the Moose mountain area. The main basins there, however, lie in the Belly river, that outcrops over bands that are sometimes hundreds of miles long.

A new strike of considerable importance has just been made on William Duncan's ranch on the east coast of Graham Island, near Lawn Hill. Although fine gold has been found on the beach in various places near Lawn Hill, nothing like pay dirt has been found until when prospecting at the mouth of a gulch Mr. Duncan got several grains of coarse gold in his pan. Several thousand feet of lumber were ordered at once from the Queen Charlotte mills, and as soon as sluice boxes can be installed a thorough test of the gravel to bedrock will be made, and if the dirt proves to be as rich as the present indications lead the fortunate owners to expect, a large force of men will be put to work. Mr. Duncan is a pioneer on the Queen Charlottes and has mined placer gold in the Kootenays and Alaska.

A Veteran Miner's Opinion

Dr. Raymond may be regarded as the doyen of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. He is well known in Canadian mining circles, and anything that he says is read with interest. He has recently delivered a very suggestive address on qualitative and quantitive thinking, which is well worthy of attention. It was not so very long ago that the catalogue of a certain college announced a course in Assaying, "President of Ancient and Modern Languages and History; of Mental and Natural Philosophy and Applied Science." A small and in some respects a ludicrous beginning—but it contained at least the aspiration, which was a prophesy of the manifold and multiform training which our best universities are now equipped, and competent to furnish.

In the second place, this gathering emphasizes the underlying unity of these specialties; mining, metallurgical, civil, mechanical, electrical, chemical—you are all engineers. Even the architects are engineers, or else they are not fully accomplished as architects. All possess something in common which makes them engineers and not merely engineers, they are bound to make effective for the generation.

An engineer means something more than a man who attends an engine. Somewhere in the 70's of the last century, when the American Institute of Mining Engineers held its first meeting in Baltimore, a leading manufacturer said that city said: "If you have any influence with your brethren in the engineers' convention, I hope you will not urge them to order a strike. In these times $2.50 a day is nearly all that we can afford to pay our engineers." Of course he was told that that was not a labor union, but a union of laborers, who never struck for higher wages, but simply earned them and gave them; that our chief purpose was not to increase the wages, but to improve the work.

Quantitive Thinking Essential

There is one element which characterizes all true engineers. The engineers' thought and work are quantitive and merely qualitative. Engineering lies at the basis of civilization, but the progress of civilization is often erroneously measured by mere inventions. Now, inventions may sometimes be made and must always be perfected and utilized by engineers. The inventors, who are nothing more, fare badly, as they ought to.

How often do we hear the accusation that the world has ill repaid the first propounder of an idea which in the hands of another has proved profitable. But, in truth, it is not the happy thought about a thing, but the doing the thing which deserves the reward. No doubt the first man, looking at the first bird, wanted to fly, and tried to fly, but the trouble was, he couldn't fly. Should we now hunt up his heirs and pay them for the invention of their ancestors? His work was merely qualitative.

Once upon a time a pale, inspired inventor climbed up to an office, and asked for help to go to Colorado. He had invented the idea of using electricity and metallurgy; and he wanted to go to the Rocky Mountains, because at that time electricity was so abundant. His notion was a qualitative one. Yet, no doubt, if he is still alive, he cherishes the notion that he has been robbed of the glory justly due to him for his bright idea.

A Warning.

Two Pendlebury miners were summoned at Manchester, on the 10th inst., at the instance of Messrs. Andrew, Knowles & Sons, Limited, acting under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, for having paid wages at a public house. The prosecution pointed out that the charter-master system prevailed in the mines at Pendlebury under which the men worked in groups, and at the end of the week the money earned by the whole of the men in the group was handed to one man, who divided it amongst the others. A special room was provided at the colliery in which the money could be divided. It was often a custom of licensees to "sub" the colliers during the week and charge them interest on the money advanced, and it was to prevent anything like that the the Act was thus framed. The defence contended that the men in the group were in the position of partners in a concern, and not the servants of one another. A question of law was involved, as the Act had reference to wages payable by an employer to an employee. Mr. Butler, miners' agent, said that he was astounded at the suggestion that licensees in Pendlebury advanced money to the colliers and charged interest. He had never heard of such a thing. In cases like that, where one man received money on behalf of a group in which he worked, it had always been the practice to go and divide the money wherever it suited them best. Thirty-six men came out of the pits every two minutes, and it would be impossible to divide in the room provided. The bench inflicted a nominal penalty of 5s and costs in each case, with the intimation that wages must not be divided in a public house, and agreed to state a case in the event of the Miners' Union deciding to appeal.

A Gas-Detecting Device.

Experiments are now being carried out by Professor Cadman with a view to fixing standards in connection with the yellow cap, but whether such standards were fixed or not, a lamp fitted with that simple device would no doubt be of great utility in enabling a fireman to discover quickly the presence of gas, seeing that during his journey round the mine, he could frequently, with only a moment's hesitation, turn the asbestos into the flame, and note whether or not the yellow cap was present. To assist in reading the gas-taps, a perpendicular scale had been attached to the snuffer-pin in such a way that during the test it might be turned into position quite close to the burner, and the height of the cap readily read, whereas, when not needed for testing purposes, it might be turned away from the burner and did not, therefore, draw the flame or cause it to smoke, as would be the case if it were permanently fixed alongside the burner. The asbestos would, with reasonable care, remain active for a considerable time, as under one test a lamp with the indicator in the flame had been used continuously for a week, and at the end of that time the flame-colored properties did not appear to have been affected. If, therefore, the indicator were dipped in soda solution, or a new holder (costing a few pence) were attached to the lamp at the commencement of every week, it should enable the indicator to be kept in a thoroughly efficient state. From the construction of the device, it would be seen that there is very little divergence from the collier's lamp now in general use, and requirements of the most conservative fireman.

Samson Disc Coal-Cutters.

The special sphere of the disc machine is in very hard holding material, where the roof pavement and other conditions are all favorable to the operating of long wall machines. Under such conditions the disc machine will travel faster and cut a greater distance per shift than any other type. In a machine especially designed for cutting in very hard material great strength and rigidity of structure are primary necessaries; in the working parts the essential requirements are strength and durability, protection from injury, freedom of access, and interchangeability; in the motor, high power and the capacity to endure overload are indispensable. It is claimed for the Samson coal disc-cutter that it embodies all these characteristics in a degree that has never been approached in any other coal-cutter. The Samson disc coal-cutters present several features, and notable among these are—(a) forged steel gearing machine, cut and case hardened; (b) stationary shafts, and bushed gear wheels rotating upon them; (c) splash lubrication of the gearing. The features of electrical design to which the motors of the Pick-quick bar coal-cutter owe their well-known immunity from derangement have been incorporated in the Samson disc machine. The armature of the machine, owing to the method of building and winding them, is practically indestructible. The form of the cast steel motor shell is similar to that of the Pick-quick coal cutters. The pole pieces, with their exciting coils, are readily detachable from the sides of the shell, and their removal exposes the armature for inspection. The starting switch is mechanically strong and electrically efficient.

Aurora Mining Co.

The Aurora Mining & Milling Co. have let a contract to H. N. Brenton for the hauling of 100 tons of ore from the mine across the lake ot the platform near the railway on this side. Already several tons have been brought over. The company is in communication with several smelting firms, and it is not settled where the ore will be shipped, but it may be sent to Europe. The mine-run samples of the ore go about 2½ per cent zinc, 25 per cent lead, and 22 ounces in silver to the ton. There is a fine body of the ore blocked out in the mine.

More than 100,000 Illinois barbers, 20,000 of whom are employed in Chicago, are preparing to wage opposition to the Fahey license statute passed by the legislature last June and at the same time attempt to secure the abolishment of the state barber board, of which Charles E. Evans of Chicago is president. One of the most active factors in opposition to the statute is the Barber's Protective Association of Illinois, which has a membership of more than 1,000 in Chicago, and which was formed last October for the purpose of fighting the Fahey law.

Dr. L. T. Seavey, from Port Townsend, is in town on a short visit.

FRUITS

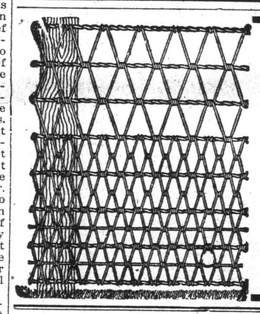
Rhubarb, per lb. 15c
Cranberries, per lb. 15c
Pineapples, each 25c
Bananas, per doz. 35c
ORANGES, 3 doz. for. 50¢

VEGETABLES

Lettuce, per head 5c
Celery, per head 10c
Cabbage, each 10c
Cauliflower, each 15c
ASPARAGUS, per lb. 20¢

The Family Cash Grocery

Cor. Yates and Douglas Sts. Phone 312



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BULL PROOF
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FIRE PROOF

Diamond Mesh Cannot Sag or Lose Its Shape

The Hickman Tye Hardware Co.

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MINISTER AND ZAM-BUK

Cured Him of a Bad Sore Which Defied All Other Remedies For Two Years

Rev. Charles E. Stafford, of Bridgeburg, Ont., says: "I had been much troubled for over two years with a sore on my left cheek. I tried all kinds of salves and lotions, but nothing I procured seemed to have the least effect towards healing the sore. Hearing of Zam-Buk, I decided to give it a trial, and see if it would bring about a cure, as so many other things had failed. I purchased a supply and commenced with the treatment. After several applications, to my great joy, Zam-Buk has effected what for two years I tried in vain to bring about—a complete cure."

Case after case could be quoted in which, as in the above instance, Zam-Buk has worked cures when everything else tried had failed. There is a reason for this. Away back in the days of Roman gladiators, secret balms were used for the healing of cuts and injuries sustained in the arena and in battle. Then came a period during which external balms were neglected, followed by a period in which all the salves and embrocations had as their base animal fats and oils. Zam-Buk marks a new epoch. It is absolutely devoid of all animal fats, all mineral coloring matters, and is composed entirely of rich medicinal herbal extracts.

Skin diseases, such as eczema, ringworm, salt rheum, and prairie itch, are speedily overcome by it. For piles it is fine!—easing the pain and inflammation, and hastening a cure. It also cures burns, scalds, cuts, ulcers, children's sores and eruptions, blood-poisoning, scratches, old wounds, varicose ulcers, etc. All druggists and stores sell at 50c a box, or post free, for price, from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto.

TO RUSH WORK ON EXTENSION

President of White Pass and Yukon Railway in the City en route to the Northern Country.

That the new extension which was started last year to connect with the copper mines at Kennecott will be completed as soon as the weather permits the gangs to operate and that other improvements will likely be made this summer in the White Pass & Yukon railway, was the statement of S. H. Graves, of London, president of that road, to the Colonist yesterday.

Mr. Graves spent the winter in Europe and arrived at the Empress yesterday afternoon. He met several local business men during the afternoon and evening and will leave tonight for Vancouver. He will make all the necessary arrangements for the carrying on of the work on the railroad this summer and will then return to the old country.

Speaking of the attitude of the English people towards British Columbia at present, Mr. Graves said that while the average man in the street looked upon Canada as a whole today in the light of a great country of vast possibilities it was only a thinking few, those who were seeking investments or homes, who really understood the advantages of this province. Many of these were thoroughly appreciative of the great future ahead of British Columbia.

"However," said Mr. Graves, "the whole country is upset now over the result of the elections and it will take some time for matters to settle down. The main interest in Canada now among the general public is the query: 'Will she give us ships?' The people of the old country are hoping that Canada will follow Australia's example and contribute ships to the navy. The feeling of expectation is very strong and the generally expressed hope is that Canada will donate ships and place them at the disposal of the admiralty so that the British fleet will receive the best general good from them. This, the English people feel, would insure unity of action and prevent friction and jealousy in crises."

B. C. Magnet Drawing Still

From letters received from C. B. Armstrong, of London, Ont., who visited Victoria and other parts of British Columbia last fall, it is taken that he will move out and settle in this district within he year. Mr. Armstrong was much taken with the future of the country during his visit here, and he has stated his intention of selling out his eastern real estate holdings and taking up property in British Columbia in the belief that this is the greatest province in Canada.

Again in Trouble

R. H. McNoun, an individual known in local police circles, is again in trouble, this time at Kamloops, where he is held on a charge of "rolling" W. F. McInnis for the sum of $125. McNoun, a year ago last February, fell foul of the local authorities. He was arrested and tried on a charge of obtaining money under false pretences by passing worthless cheques purported to have been signed by "D. Spencer." He was committed for trial and spent six months in jail waiting for his final hearing. He was convicted, but in view of his lengthy incarceration was allowed to go after making restitution. He left the city, and now is apparently in trouble again.

The Ontario section of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada had an interview with the Government recently. The deputation urged the appointment of a special committee of the Legislature to consider a revision of the Workmen's Compensation Act; that municipalities be given local autonomy in the fixing of the rate of assessment on land and improvements so that the rate on improvements might be reduced and the rate on land increased; that Sunday work for street railway employees in cities and towns be limited to eight hours; that vestibules be made compulsory on pay-as-you-enter cars; that conductors, the day's work should be eight hours, and legislation to enforce a standard rate of wages in municipal contracts.