

and with the beneficial results said to attend that sort of treatment. He had the courage the other day to tell a delegation, who came, I was going to say interceding, but C. B. delegates, as a rule, do not beg, they demand. So I will say who came demanding the "closed shop," and—more. This delegation wanted the government to command Mine and other officials to be at the beck and bow of labor unions. The Atty-General looked grave, grave—and who other than an official of a trade union would not,—but I would not say he, at the same time looked sorrowful, indeed after he had consulted Bourinot, Kent and Lord Halesbury and some other authorities, he briskly told the delegation that to grant their request would be unconstitutional. I hope this pronouncement came to the ears of the Department of Mines, who, at times, grant requests irrespective of whether they are constitutional or not. The Herald representative who endorses every request so long as it comes from an autocratic labor official has this to say of the delegation and its requests:

The principal reason for the coming of the committee was in an endeavor to secure an act which would make the recognition of labor unions compulsory upon employers. In this desire they are to be disappointed, for the attorney-general, after an examination of the proposed act, has declared it to be unconstitutional.

After a quite lengthy preamble the proposed bill provides: "Whenever any dispute shall arise between the employer and his employees in respect to any matter of wages, hours of toil, working conditions, discrimination against workmen, or any matter or thing affecting the relations between employer and employees, and a committee is regularly appointed by the said employees to adjust the matter of difference or dispute with the said employer, it shall be the duty of the said employer to meet the said committee and to hear the matter of difference or dispute.

"Any committee regularly appointed as above set out shall, by notice in writing delivered to the employer, advise the said employer of the appointment of the said committee and of the matter or thing which the said committee is authorized to adjust with the said employer, and in the same notice shall demand a hearing of the said employer within twenty-four hours.

"If, after twenty-four hours' notice duly given as above set forth, the said employer neglects or refuses, without reasonable excuse, to so meet the said committee and hear the said matter or thing relating to the said difference or dispute, the said employer so neglecting or refusing shall be liable to a penalty of not less than one hundred dollars or more than one thousand dollars for every day that he, the said employer, so neglects or refuses to meet the said committee as aforesaid."

SCOTIA

A Montreal despatch says:—The new slope which Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company is driving into its iron ore holdings at Wabana will have a capacity of 1,000,000 tons a year and should

be completed by January next. The maximum tonnage mined by the company to date was 224,000 tons in 1916.

If the full capacity of the new ore plant were utilized and the ore treated by the company, the result would be 500,000 tons of finished product. Hayden, Stone & Company, heading the American group which is now dominant in Scotia's affairs, points out in this connection that the U. S. Steel Corporation's operating profit per ton of finished product has averaged \$14.40 over the last six years. Continuing, they say:

"If we assume that Nova Scotia Steel could make a profit of \$10 per ton on its finished product, this would mean total profit of \$5,000,000 to which the company might look forward. To be sure, it has not now the capacity to turn out this amount of finished product, but a plant somewhat more commensurate with the ore deposit is under consideration."

THE EMPLOYEES COMMITTEES ACT.

The following is the substance of the Act introduced by Mr. Cameron of C. B.

This Act shall apply and be binding upon all employers operating quarries, mills, factories, docks and ships within the Province of Nova Scotia.

When any Employer operates more than one mine, quarry, mill, factory, dock or ship, the employees employed at or on each separate mine, quarry, mill, factory, dock or ship, may appoint a Committee as is by this Act provided without the vote of the other mines, quarries, mills, factories, docks or ships operated by the same Employer.

Whenever any dispute or difference shall arise between any Employer and his employees in respect to any matter of wages, hours of toil, discrimination against workmen or any matter or thing affecting the relations between Employer and Employees and a committee is regularly appointed by the said employees to adjust the matter of difference or dispute with the said Employer it shall be the duty of the said Employer to meet the said Committee and to hear the matter of difference or dispute.

Any Committee regularly appointed as above set out shall by notice in writing delivered to the Employer advise the said Employer of the appointment of the said Committee and of the matter or thing which the said Committee is authorized to adjust with the said Employer and in the same notice shall demand a hearing of the said Employer within twenty-four hours.

If after twenty-four hours notice duly given as above set forth the said Employer neglects or refuses without reasonable excuse to so meet the said Committee and hear the said matter or thing relating to the said difference or dispute the said Employer so neglecting or refusing shall be liable to a penalty of not less than One Hundred Dollars or more than One Thousand Dollars for every day that he the said Employer so neglects or refuses to meet the said Committee as aforesaid.