

and equitable changes made to correspond with the varying conditions of business.

The right to refuse to work when terms are unsatisfactory is undeniable, but dissatisfaction should rest upon substantial grounds, and not upon an inadequate knowledge of existing facts. Strikes that proceed no farther than cessation from work no one should find fault with, except those who suffer from the non-earning of wages, but those who are attended by destruction of property, or interference with those who are willing to work on proper terms, are more than reprehensible, they are crimes against society. The principle is the same whether property is wrongly taken from one or labor is wrongfully prevented from earning property. Labor organizations should guard against the undue exacting of capital, but because among laboring men there are non-communists with labor organizations, it is no excuse for a resort to coercion and violence.

The indefensible conduct of strikers in the past has kept a large number of thoughtful and good men from becoming members of labor organizations. A just course will largely increase the membership, and create a more extended and deeper sympathy on the part of the American people. Reprehensible demands and incendiary agitation estrange sympathy and impair the effect of organized effort to protect the rights and promote the interests of the working classes. Labor and capital are interdependent, and should be cordially co-operative.

These are some of the general principles that should be respected. The issues in specific cases it is not our purpose or business to discuss.

During the month of June 10,000 tons of coal and 2,000 tons of coke were shipped from Fernie by the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company. Two mines on worked, near Fernie, are being day by December. Another mine is being opened at Michel. In three months 100 coke ovens will be in operation.

The Philadelphia Mining Company has bought land near the Butte mills, six miles below Rossland, B. C. on the Northport road, and is engaged, in building in fifty-ton concentrator. The mine is less than two miles. Three car loads of machinery have been ordered and are expected by the time the building is ready to receive it. It is claimed by the owner of the mine, the Mountain Trail, that they have an abundance of concentrating ore.

No more striking example of home thrift can be found than in the newly-awakened mining zeal that is everywhere prevalent in and about Spokane. Prior to the sale of the great Le Roi mine at Rossland, B. C., in which Spokane men were chiefly interested, the Washington city experienced remark-

able prosperity; but with the sale of the Le Roi, and the advent of the Klondike boom, local enthusiasm waned and naught was heard of Spokane for a year or more. Then Spokane capital and energy began working in the Republic District of the Colville Reservation Country in Northeastern Washington, and to-day the camps in that region are more prominently mentioned than any other mining-camps in the Union. And they seem to deserve their prominence, for it is certain that a very rich belt of mineral has been opened. The nearness of this territory to Spokane has precipitated another period of prosperity—which has all the earmarks of permanency. It all goes to show that it is wiser and better to pitch in and develop one's own resources, than it is to shut off energy and thus give tacit encouragement to developments in the outside world.

This paragraph is from the Colonial Goldfields of last year and goes to show the necessity of a journal such as the "B. C. Mining Exchange."

Mr. F. L. Mercer, a partner in the firm of Osborn and Mercer, of Piccadilly, is now on a visit to British Columbia with Mr. A. J. McMillan, of Rossland, and has been interviewed as to his opinions concerning the future of Rossland in particular, and of the Province in general. His reply was as follows:—"I hardly like to give an opinion, having been so short a time in your beautiful country, but since you ask me I must say two things have greatly struck me. First—The immensity and richness of the mineral wealth of this Province, and then the strange fact of how little it is known and appreciated in Great Britain. Your gold and silver mines appear to be marvellously rich, but until Mr. McMillan spoke to me about them last winter I am bound to say I knew little or nothing about them. If you desire to attract British capital out here for development, by all means take active steps to make British Columbia far better known in England." Mr. Mercer suggested that the authorities should make known as widely as possible in the British press what splendid opportunities there are in the Province for the profitable investment of capital.

A GREAT CLEAN-UP.

With 110 passengers on board and close on half a million dollars in gold dust and drafts, the steamer Cutch arrived in port last night from the north, after a flying trip to Skagway and return. The fact that she made the trip direct, without stopping at any of the canneries, shows the large business that could thus be arranged for every through trip. The decks were lined with passengers when the vessel came in and they all had a very business-like and comparatively well-off, if rough, appearance. They had had a very good trip up the river from Dawson, for, as one man explained, as the vessel was tying up, it was very easy to navigate now, even though the water was lower

than it had been for several years at the same time in the season. This was because every bar and sandbank was marked by a half-sunken steamer, which showed the way very clearly to all other navigators who happened to pass that way. They had left Dawson on August 17th, a week later than any others who have come out and down to Seattle by the last steamers, and they were only four days coming down from Skagway.

J. R. Rudico, of Seattle, was the richest man aboard, and he had about \$200,000 of the treasure brought down by the Cutch. J. H. Howie, a Brandon man, had nearly \$100,000, and other passengers made up the further amounts. Humboldt Gates, a young Californian; who, by the way, gained his gold at the apparent expense of his health, was another rich passenger. Among other prominent people on board was T. W. Williams, correspondent for "Black and White," of London, who has been on quite a prolonged stay in the country. Mr. Wilkins and J. Gordon Arthur were other prominent people who were aboard.

The most interesting news from Dawson was the statement of one of the largest clean-ups for the time that has ever taken place in the history of the country. It was on claim No. 2 above on Bonanza, which is owned by an English Syndicate. The clean-up lasted for six days and was completed on the 14th of this month, the Sunday previous to the departure of the Klondikers for the outside. It was witnessed, so that there could be no possible question about the accuracy of it, by Manager Doig, of the Bank of B. N. A., and Mr. Halperin, another prominent official as well as many other people. Close upon \$50,000 was taken out during the time mentioned; one of the richest pans ever taken in the Klondike was secured. It was worth \$975 and another pan contained a nugget worth \$456, weighing 28 1-2 ozs. The property is a large one and several adjoining claims will likely turn out very well.

Administrator Ogilvie has just announced that \$175,000 will be expended in the building of trails and wagon roads which are so much needed throughout the district. It is expected that other appropriations will be made by the Yukon Council for such work and that a good deal of necessary assistance will be given the mining industry in this way.

When the party passed up the river they saw the telegraph line completed to 25 miles below Selkirk. It will easily be in Dawson by the 15th of September, "and then the next thing to do is to have a cable or wire of some sort down to Vancouver from Skagway," said Mr. Williams to a reporter this morning, as he was discussing the matter.

Miss "Cad" Wilson, who is one of the best known variety actresses in the west, and has a reputation all the way from Chicago to the Klondike, was also a passenger by the Cutch, and she brought down in the vicinity of \$20,000, the result of her two years' earnings in the music halls in Dawson and other judicious investments. She left for Seattle this morning with nearly all the passengers who were eventually bound for the American side of the line.