

which the Act applies affords the strongest indication of the purpose of Parliament and the strongest reason why there should be no interruption of the work. They are 'mining properties' and 'agencies of public service utility.' As regards the latter, upon which the community depends for daily and constant necessary service the public interest in, and need for, their unbroken operation is manifest. As regards coal mines, apart from damage to the same, the loss and privation which may result to manufacturers and consumers at large through wide sections from a general interruption of production is matter of recent history and common knowledge. Parliament has seen fit, doubtless for good reasons, some of which readily occur to one, to include silver and other mines in the same category in this Act, and they cannot be separated in interpreting it."

THE CRIME OF PERJURY.

When speaking recently of the crime of perjury and its prevalence, we were aware that some of our judges at least in the Province of Ontario, are fully alive to the present condition of things in that regard. For example, in the case of *McCullough v. Hughes*, tried at Barrie in October last, Mr. Justice Riddell recommended the prosecution of a witness, who was subsequently convicted of perjury on two counts, before the county judge. At the Sandwich assizes in the same month, three witnesses were, upon the direction of the same judge under R.S.C. 1906, c. 146, s. 870, indicted for perjury, and a true bill found. His practice in regard to the matter is also referred to in *Hall v. Berry*, not reported, where he says that if he found that a witness had committed perjury in a case before him, he would have directed a prosecution as he had done in other cases. In another case he says: "The crime of perjury seems to be alarmingly on the increase, and all legitimate means should be taken to punish it, and thereby prevent its repetition." Other judges have also brought crimes of this character to the attention of the Crown authorities, and recommended prosecutions, and in their charges to the grand juries have called attention to the evil.