2. It is obvious that the price of Ontario mineral land, ranging from $2 to $3 an acre, bears no relation whatever to its value. Where no mineral in paying quantity exists on the location, the price is grossly excessive, and the purchase is generally abandoned, with the result that it is tri-ennially sold for taxes, bought by lawyers and real estate speculators to be again sold, and it thus furnishes a fund for taxes which are never expended on its improvement. The kind of land thus alienated from the Crown domain has, by its patent, not any title to nobility conferred upon it, but on the contrary, each parcel serves the rascally purpose of a lottery ticket, for bringing to the Government or municipalities money to which these bodies have no moral right, and out of the pockets of citizens to whom the Government of the country owes the common duty of protection from fraud. On the other hand, where mineral exists in paying quantities, the low price fixed by the Crown bears no relation to the value of the property. The object of the mine owner is to get the greatest possible output with the least possible expense, and by no method can he add to the original value of the mine, except by that of inducing the public to build railroads and other facilities for improving the value of the minerals. Crown timber land is occasionally sold for ten times the price per acre of mineral land, but even this is a small price in comparison with the value of an iron mine, for example, which within an area of ten acres may turn out one million tons of iron ore, the royalty on which, at a minimum charge of 10 cents a ton, would be $100,000.

3. Due regard for the development of the mineral wealth of Ontario requires measures for the education and prosperity of a body of skilled miners, who should have fair wages, comfortable dwellings, means of obtaining provisions and clothing at fair prices, and insurance for their families against loss of life and limb. There is nothing under the present condition of mining enterprise which calls for any expenditure on the part of the mine owner likely to benefit the locality of the mine. The hovels of miners in the vicinity of some Canadian mines are a disgrace to our so-called mining enterprise. Food supplies are generally brought in from a distance, and near-by gardening or farming meets with no encouragement. The population is migratory, and employment precarious—dependent quite as much, or more, upon the financial management of the concern as upon the supply of ore. As a consequence, mining villages as they now exist in this country, and in the United States,