THE COAL MINERS' STRIKE.

Of course the strike or the walk-out in the coal mines of Western Canada is a serious business, and it is the duty of the authorities to take such action as may be practicable to put an end to the difficulty. But, in the words of a contemporary, it is a condition, not a theory, that confronts the country. The theory is that there is a law on the statute book which says the miners shall not cease work by resolution or common consent until the nature of the misunderstanding between them and their employers has been inquired into by a conciliation board and an effort has been made, officially, to adjust the difference. That is, it is unlawful to strike without official sanction. The actual condition is that there is no power vested in government under any modern system whereby men can be compelled to engage in any industrial occupation against their will. If the miners say they will not dig coal, even for a week, in order that industrial paralysis shall be averted, we should be considerably enlightened if some one would point out how they are going to be coerced into working. It may be true that the men have violated the law and are entitled to no consideration—not even the consideration of the retention of their situations for them—and that the companies should be protected in their efforts to secure entirely new forces of operators from elsewhere. But here again we are confronted with a condition as opposed to a theory. The condition is that it is absolutely impossible to secure new forces of men—if it were possible to secure them at all—in time to avert the paralysis against which the country in general is protesting. Some say the government ought to take the matter entirely out of the hands of both operators and operatives and prosecute temporarily, or even permanently, the business of coal mining itself. That is a suggestion worthy of very serious consideration. But it is easier to make than to carry out. It involves far-reaching consequences—a revolution in our industrial system that might involve results more serious than anyone advancing it has any conception of. It would assuredly lead to the extension of the principle of state operation of industries. The continuous operation of railways is more essential to the welfare of the community at large than the operation of coal mines. The employees of any or all of our great railway systems, observing what had occurred in the case of our coal mines, might become seized with the conviction that the condition of an employee of the government is much more tolerable than the condition of an employee of a private corporation. Under the method suggested by inconsiderate journalists and others, it would be a comparatively easy matter to secure the transfer of railways from private into public hands. We scarcely think the country is yet ready for the extension of the principle of government operation to coal mines and railways. Owing to the growing complexities of modern industrial systems and as a consequence of the necessity of state interference between the two forces which seem to be prone to conflict, government ownership and operation may be forced upon nations as the only solution of a difficult problem; but public opinion is certainly not prepared for such a drastic remedy just yet. In the meantime we have little doubt that when the Deputy Minister of Labor and his staff get the parties to the dispute upon common ground, it will be a comparatively easy matter to reach a settlement that will be satisfactory to all concerned.

AN OTTAWA TRAGEDY.

Hon. Geo. E. Foster was never at any time in his career a popular man. He has not the personal qualities which command esteem, while confidence and love, even from his political asociates, he neither seemed to desire nor to consider necessary to the part he aspired to play. In parliament, because of his commanding intellectual abilities and his magnificent talents as a debater, he could not be considered other than a towering figure; outside of the House he walked alone, solitary, possessing neither close friend nor personal confidant. The aloofness of the ex-Finance Minister may have been induced by an inward consciousness of his stature compared with those with whom he was allied as a public man. He may have considered himself a Saul among his political brethren, with a giant's contempt for the puny men essaying to do battle with the political enemy. It would have been well for Mr. Foster had he accepted the verdicts of the many constituencies to which he appealed in vain previous to securing a nomination in North Toronto. The sun of his public life, it is true, had been dimmed by his treacherous treatment of his one-time political chief, Sir Mackenzie Bowell. But he was not alone in that dark transaction. His disgrace was shared by others. It is believed he has now reached the end of his career; and he feels himself that the darkened luminary is sinking behind a cloud unrelieved by a single ray of glory.

Mr. Foster's nature is evidently more sensitive than either his political enemies or friends supposed. The report of the Insurance Commissions stung him deeply in a tender spot. He had been cherishing the findings in his heart as a special grievance against the Minister of Justice, and counted upon his ability as a sophist to retrieve his tarnished reputation once he secured the coveted opportunity to bring his case before Parliament unhampered by rules of procedure. He succeeded in his desire, and after the ordeal was over, according to disinterested testimony, he presented the melancholy spectacle of a "broken" man. But to assert, in the light of the facts, that the commission was appointed for the special purpose of "breaking" Mr. Foster, is absurd in the extreme. The most melancholy feature of the case, which has been described as a tragedy, was the indifference displayed by Mr. Foster's colleagues on the opposition side of the House. The Ottawa correspondent of the Montreal Herald draws a very striking picture of the final scene. "There was," he says, "more than pathos, there was tragedy in the scene in the House of Commons at two o'clock this morning, at the end of the Insurance Commission debate.

"Mr. Foster's great protest against the report of that Commission had been under discussion for two days. The press of the country had given its opinion, and that opinion reached the House on the afternoon and evening of the second day. As paper after paper came in it became evident that not only was the Liberal press absolutely unconvinced by its arguments, but that with few exceptions the Conservative press was lukewarm in his defense or coldly critical, while the independent writers were uniformly hostile. The evening session began with a good turn-out of Conservatives but no enthusiasm. As time went on and the interminable rivulet of Conservative oratory, unbroken by a single Liberal speaker, trickled meaninglessly on, the Opposition thinned and thinned again. Mr. Borden was away all evening. Hon. Mr. Haggart absented himself. Mr. Fowler, so eulogistic of Mr. Foster in the morning, did not show up. Mr. Ames was invisible. Mr. Maclean was present, and spoke, without so much as mentioning Mr. Foster's name.

"At a very late hour, owing to the absence of further Conservative support, Mr. Foster was compelled to take the floor with that part of his apology for which his voice had been inadequate the day before. When he had finished and Mr. Aylesworth had made his brief comment, there was exhibited a spectacle which was creditable neither to the Conservative party nor to Mr. Foster. In the face of a strong Liberal phalanx of nearly one hundred, which had remained until this advanced hour to show its confidence in the government and its support of Mr. Aylesworth, there rose a beggarly handful of seventeen Conservatives, all that was present of the entire opposition party to vote for the vindication of Hon. George Eulas Foster and to declare lack of confidence in the judges who found against him.

"Here was the man who by his record as a public man at least throws in the shade every other member of the Opposition, who was a great parliamentarian when those who surround him were in their political swaddling-clothes, and who to-day at the end of a long and sombre career finds himself in the darkest and most difficult position of his life. And yet there was not enough feeling for his position in the ranks of his fellow-partizans to secure him the attendance of even a score of Conservative for his vote of protest and his declaration of innocence. The party which has been afraid to throw him overboard was too careless to stand by him. Mr. Borden, Mr. Monk, Mr. Ames, Mr. Haggart, were home in bed.

"After the vote Mr. Foster went out of the House alone; as he once, after a historic election in St. John, N. B., left that city alone and unattended with the shouts of the victors ringing in his ears. The Conservative party is not so tender to its wounded fighters. Some may feel that it would be more charitable to despatch the wounded than to leave them on the field."

PREMIER M'BRIDE'S PLEASURE TRIP.

It is just as well to have the assurance that Premier McBride is not going to ask permission to lay the case he is carrying to the foot of the throne at the feet of the colonial premiers in conference assembled also. The leader of the Conservative government of British Columbia, as must appear to anyone familiar with constitutional practice and understanding the attitude of Imperial statesmen towards the colonies, would have just as good a chance of accomplishing something before one tribunal as before the other. Besides, it appears to us that Mr. McBride must have got the Colonial Conference mixed up in his mind with the Colonial Office, else why is he now on his way to Great Britain when he might just as well have been at home attending to the business before the Legislature? It surely cannot be his intention literally to appear before the foot of the throne bearing in his hands our case for better terms. If such is his intention, he will find the throne unoccupied for some time yet, as King Edward is on the continent visiting his relatives and friends. If it is his intention to appear before the Secretary of State for the Colonies with his supplication, we do not see how he is going to do that for some time to come, as the Colonial Secretary has received no intimation of the amendments proposed to the B. N. A. Act by the Dominion government, at the request of the premiers of all the provinces of the Dominion except one. The measure in question has not yet passed the Dominion Parliament. Such being the condition of affairs, we are driven to the conclusion that Premier McBride's visit to Great Britain is purely one of pleasure, and that the better terms fiasco has merely been brought forward as an excuse for charging the cost of the same to the people of the province.

MR. FOSTER AND THE INSURANCE COMMISSION.

A good deal of the time of the Dominion Parliament has been taken up in the discussion of the report of the Insurance Commission. Hon. Geo. E. Foster has been the chief instrument in provoking these debates, and in the main they have not been creditable to him either in the manner of their prosecution or in the facts they have brought forth. The ex-Finance Minister has felt very keenly the reflections upon his character contained in the report, and the longer he has nursed his wrath the deeper it has become, with the result that he has managed to provoke scenes in the House that are very much to be regretted by all who are jealous of the dignity that ought to hedge round Parliament. While Mr. Borden, the leader of the opposition, has wildly condemned the report which censured so many of his most prominent colleagues, it will be remembered that when that gentleman was invited to become a partner in the enterprise which proved so profitable to the band of speculators who had secured the favor of the heads of the C. P. R. and C. N. R., he was sufficiently discreet to refuse. His discretion undoubtedly saved him from deposition as leader of the Conservative party.

But the fact that the reputation of individuals has been affected by the report is not of particular importance so long as the purpose for which the commission was appointed—the protection of the interests of multitudes insured—has been accomplished. That this has been done there is no manner of doubt. The Toronto Globe published an article which covered the ground completely, dealing with the complaint of Mr. Foster and the data upon which the complaint was founded as follows:

"Mr. Foster's main attitude towards the Insurance Commission is that its members and its counsel pried into matters that had no relation to life insurance, that in inquiring into his relations with the funds of the Foresters it was inquiring into private business, and in doing so was actuated by political rancor. Let us see how ths is.

"Among all the institutions which the Commission investigated there is no one in which the government's duty to insist on safety is more plain than in the case of an institution like the Foresters. Hundreds of thousands of families are vitally interested that its funds should be well managed and secured, as far as humanly may be, from loss. The Commission found that in connection with this great fraternal association, with some three hundred millions of insurance, a subsidiary company had been formed whose capital, to the extent of two million dollars, was supplied by the Independent Order of Foresters, and whose investment funds came from the same source. Of this company Mr. Foster was the manager.

"He now claims that he in no sense occupied a position of trust with regard to the funds of the Foresters. He was not, he says, even a Forester. His argument is that the Supreme Court of the Foresters is the trustee of those funds. When it handed them over to him as manager of the Union Trust Company he assumed no share of the trust responsibility that inhered in the Supreme Court. That is to say, the Supreme Court of the Foresters, which is forbidden by law to invest the surplus funds in speculative enterprises, can form the Union Trust Company, turn over enormous sums of the funds of the association to it, and its manager is then entitled to invest them in speculative enterprises to which, while the funds remained in the possession of the Supreme Court, it would have been illegal to resort. This may be legal, but the very purpose of appointing an Insurance Commission was to uncover such subterfuges, to show their dangers, and to provide against them for the future, should it be thought necessary. What Mr. Foster declares to be an implacable hunt after his political scalp was in fact an effort to unravel a most tortuous series of transactions, the whole purpose being to show that funds of the Foresters, in which the savings of hundreds of thousands of famiies are invested, were being jeopardized under the guise of a separate but really connected organization.

"The Commission would have been false to the duty with which it was charged if it had not exposed the fact that under the false face of the Union Trust Company the funds of the Foresters were imperilled; that when Mr. Foster and his associates pocketed five thousand dollars on the transaction with what is known as the Montague syndicate they pocketed in reality the money of the Independent Order of Foresters, and when Mr. Foster himself made a profit of twenty-five cents an acre on a subsequent transaction he was again pocketing the money of the Foresters through his position as manager of the Union Trust Company. The distinction he draws, his refinements of reasoning, do not alter these facts, and they were matters that the Commission was bound to inquire into.

"Mr. Foster's defence, that no money was actually lost, is wholly beside the matter. Several of the transactions were highly speculative, and were such as are prohibited by law in the investment of trust funds. Mr. Foster during his speech made an appeal to the feelings of his hearers in the character of a man who had held high office and had in no way profited by his opportunities. There need be no disposition to deny this picture which Mr. Foster gives us of himself. It may be admitted that his official record is good. Former character is not without its weight in considering such a case. It is necessary, however, to say that the Commission was considerng actual happenings that came within the scope of its inquiry, and in relation to these happenings Mr. Foster's former reputation for probity has been very largely prejudiced and affected for the worse."

Ottawa Free Press: In declining to accept the Governorship of the Yukon, preferring to continue to serve the people in Parliament, Mr. Ralph Smith has shown a spirit of self-sacrifice which is not too common among public men. As the head of the Yukon Administration Mr. Smith would have had opportunity to display the gifts he possesses, and would undoubtedly have made a good administrator; yet his acceptance of the proffered position would have deprived parliament of one of its wisest and most advanced legislators. Mr. Smith is more than the representative of a British Columbia constituency—he represents the labor interests of the whole country. . . . Not being a man of wealth, the salary attached to the Yukon Governorship must undoubtedly have been a strong inducement to accept, but the country and parliament are richer by his decision to remain a representative of the people in the Commons chamber.

* * *

The Colonial Conferences will henceforth be known as Imperial Conferences. But the Premiers were wise enough not to propose to take away any of the powers of either the Imperial or the colonial parliaments and hand them over to the Imperial Conference. Under its new status the Conference may accomplish a great deal that is good, and it can never do any harm. Therefore it is perhaps not necessary to say that the changes in name and in scope were made on the suggestion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

* * *

Mr. W. J. Bryan is defining his platform, which will be a modification of previous "declarations of principle." Mr. Roosevelt is said to be seriously considering whom he shall select as his successor. All of which reminds us that 1908 will be a presidential year. Conservatives predict that we shall have a Dominion general election next year also. If that is the case we shall have very lively times on this great continent to which we belong.

* * *

Employing private detectives to dog the footsteps of ministers and members of Parliament is a new development in Canadian public life. That, it appears, is what the opposition at Ottawa has been doing. "Gathering the tittle-tattle of hotel porters and scullions" is a not very creditable means of procuring political material. It indicates the condition of despair to which the party has descended.

* * *

The new electric street sprinkler is a very efficient machine. It is too effective altogether to be allowed to spend any portion of its time in idleness. The city council ought to keep it steadily at work.

DISTRICT ORDERS.

Lieut.-Col. Macdougall and Non-Coms From London Have Left British Columbia.

District orders issued by command of Col. Holmes Thursday contains the information that Lieut.-Col. Macdougall, Quarter-Master Sergeant White and Sergeant Sales have been struck off the strength of this military district. The officer and non-coms mentioned were transferred from Wolseley barracks, London, Ont., to Work Point in order to give instruction in infantry drill throughout British Columbia.

The district orders are as follows:

The undermentioned officer and N. C. O.'s of the instructional staff of the Royal Canadian Regiment, having left the district for London, Ontario, on the 23rd ulto., on completion of the schools of instruction in British Columbia, are struck off the strength of the district from that date: Major and Brevert Lieut.-Col. J. C. Macdougall, Q. M. S. W. J. White and Sergt. J. J. Sales.

The inspection of the 6th Regiment D. C. O. R. for 1906-07 will be held as follows:

Headquarter companies at Vancouver, on the 27th inst. at 4 p. m. dress review order.

No. 1 and 2 companies at New Westminister, on the 29th inst., at 4 p. m. dress review order.

Pay lists in triplicate duly signed to be ready for muster by the paymaster at the close of the inspection. Medical officers report to accompany the pay lists, one copy for each set of three.

Target practice reports to be completed and forwarded as soon after inspection as possible.

Armouries, books, etc., will be inspected as follows: Vancouver, 11 a. m., 27th inst., New Westminster, at close of parade on the 29th inst., mufti may be worn on this duty at Vancouver.

Magnificent Showing of New Rugs

Our immense purchase of the most popular weaves was made before the general advance in market prices; we are therefore enabled to offer exceptionally good values.

Austrian Axminsters

We are showing an immense shipment of Beautiful Austrian Axminster Rugs, woven in one piece and designed in Medaillon and Art Nouveau effects. These Rugs make a beautiful fitting for drawing rooms and bedrooms. We have a wide color range.

Size 3 ft. 3 in. x 6 ft. 0 in., at each.. $5.75
Size 4 ft. 5 in. x 6 ft. 6 in. at each.. $8.75
Size 6 ft. 6 in. x 9 ft. 8 in., at each $22.50 and.. $16.50
Size 8 ft. 3 in. x 11 ft. 6 in., at each, $32.50, $28.75 and.. $27.75
Size 10 ft. 0 in. x 13 ft. 10 in., at each $65, $45 and.. $37.50
Size 11 ft. 0 in. x 14 ft. 3 in., at each.. $45.00

Smyrna Hearth Rugs---Just Opened

The Symyrna has two wearing surfaces, constructed of carefully blended wools forming a soft thick pile that will stand great wear. Our Smyrnas are Rugs of great merit, and the selection is most attractive. Many of the numbers are exact reproductions in design and color of costly Oriental Rugs, but our range is also replete with Medallion, Floral and Conventional effects. We show three qualities in the following sizes:

18 in. 4 33 in., at each.. $1.25
26 in. x 54 in., at each.. $2.50
30 in. x 60 in., at each $4.00, $3.50 and.. $2.50
36 in. x 72 in., at each $5.00 and.. $4.50

Cocoa Fibre Mats

To save your carpets from being tracked up again after house cleaning a Brush Mat is indispensible. We have them in every size and quality from 14 in. x 24 in. at 35c. up to 28 in. x 45 in. at each.. $2.50

Newly Imported Japanese Rugs

These Rugs have a deep rich pile, and are shown in a large variety of Oriental designs of blues, reds and greens; sizes and prices as follows:

3 ft. x 6 ft., at each only.. $1.75
4 ft. x 6 ft., at each only.. $2.50
3 ft. x 9 ft., at each only.. $2.75
3 ft. x 12 ft., at each only.. $3.50
6 ft. x 9 ft., at each only.. $5.75
9 ft. x 12 ft., at each only.. $9.50
12 ft. x 12 ft., at each only.. $11.50

Seamless Velvet Rugs

During the week our stock of Seamless Velvet Rugs has been largely increased, and to-day we show many exclusive designs in the most needed sizes. Velvet Rugs afford a rich appearance and will stand hard service. Modestly priced, as follows:

3 yds x 3½ yds., at each.. $24.00
3 yds. x 4 yds., at each.. $27.50
3½ yds. 4 yds., at each.. $35.00

Togo Bath Mats

A washable Mat expressly for the bathroom, in white ground and delft blue; also in white and olive; three sizes, as follows:

18 in x 36 in.. $1.50
27 in. x 54 in.. $2.75
36 in. x 72 in.. $4.00

Exceptional Inducements in New Lacrosse Shoes

We have a very seasonable opportunity of offering special values in these Shoes. Quality and prices will attract everyone.

MEN'S LACROSSE OXFORDS, per pair.. 70c
BOYS' LACROSSE OXFORDS, 1 to 5, per pair.. 60c
YOUTHS' LACROSSE OXFORDS, 11 to 13, per pair.. 50c
BOYS' LACROSSE HIGH LACE BOOTS, per pair.. $1.00
YOUTHS' LACROSSE HIGH LACE BOOTS, per pair.. 90c

DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

TWO YEARS FOR ABDUCTION.

Two Quartermasters of Steamer Cassiar Sentenced for Keeping Girls in Close Confinement.

Two quartermasters of the steamer Cassiar, Fred Ortago and Bruce Edwards, were found guilty of the crime of abduction, and sentenced to two years in the provincial penitentiary by Magistrate Williams at Vancouver on Saturday. The accusation against them was that they had taken Ida Bell and Myrtle Ellis, two little girls, away from their homes without the sanction or knowledge of their parents or guardian, and had kept them concealed in their cabin on board the Cassiar while the steamer made the round trip to the north.

Magistrate Williams, in pasing sentence, administered a stern rebuke to the men, which dyed even their sunburnt cheeks with crimson. His Worship told them that if they had possessed the least spark of manly instinct, they should have advised the girls to return to their homes, and it was certainly their duty to have reported the presence of the girls to the captain. "No," said the magistrate, "it has been proved by the evidence and by your own statements that you enticed the girls to enter the cabin, and it is asking too much not to believe that you had the girls there otherwise than to satisfy your own low base and lustful passions. It was a most contemptible act, and I do not wonder that young girls so frequently go astray, when such as you are walking the streets."

Myrtle Ellis' testimony was taken first. She stated that she was fourteen, but she was very slight and short for her age. She related that she left home Monday afternoon, giving the impression to her mother that she was going to school, but instead she went to the C. P. R. depot where she had arranged to meet Ida Bell. She was afraid to go to school fearing she would receive a whipping. Ida did not come until after three 'clock, when they both went down to Evans, Coleman & Evans' wharf. Then they went to the steamer Cassiar, where they met "Fred" and asked him if they could go on the boat, and he gave them permission. In reply to his questions, they told him that they were going to a logging camp as they were not well treated at home. They wanted to go somewhere where they would not be discovered, and Ortago had told them that the safest place would be in his cabin, to which they assented. "Bruce" was in the cabin when they went down with "Fred," and when he knew that they were going to a logging camp he said that Seattle was a better place, and Fred said he would take them if they wanted to go. Sometime afterwards, she said, Edwards told them that he could not go to Seattle as the "boss" wanted him to take two more trips before he left the boat.

The girl then stated that they had remained in the cabin all the time after the boat left Vancouver until she returned on Thursday, when they got away quietly about nine o'clock. While they were in the dark cabin, one or the other of the two men were always with them and they brought them their food. When they left the Cassiar, Edwards was compelled to go on watch, so Fred and the two girls took the ferry and went to North Vancouver. They walked about for a while and talked about going to a hotel, but that plan was given up. As soon as they got back to Vancouver, Ida Bell said she was going home as she was sure they would be caught, but the witness and Fred took a walk on Westminster Avenue and they decided, as Fred did not have his trunk that they would not go to Seattle that night, that she would go to a friend's house on Cordova street and spend the night and meet him next afternoon at four o'clock.

Ida looks a good deal older than her companion, and is several inches taller, though she said she is only thirteen. She practically substantiated the story related, and told the court that Ortago said they could take a trip on the Cassiar without any money, if they would go down to his cabin. He had asked Myrtle where she would like to go, and when Seattle was talked about, Edwards said it would be better to go there than to the logging camps. Her reason for going home and leaving her friend with Ortago was that he did not have money enough to take both the girls with him.

One of the prisoners asked her to explain about the two loggers, and she said that she had met Lewis and Johnnie Blair at her mothers', and that she had gone to see them at the Hotel Europe, and the men had told them to be at the Cassiar at six o'clock and they would pay their fare up.

W. H. Clark was called and testified as to being the guardian of Myrtle.

Ortago and Edwards did not try to contradict the stories of the girls. They had been told that the girls were going to a logging camp with two men, as they had been badly treated at home. They had told them that they might stay in their cabin, for if they went on deck they would surely be seen. Under cross-examination, they stated that they had done the girls no harm, and Ortago said he would have been satisfied if his own sisters had received similar treatment under like circumstances. When asked why they did not send the girls home, Edwards said he did not know that they had a home.

SUDDEN DEATH.

New York, April 20.—Louis W. Donnelly, traffic manager of the Diamond Match Company, died in the Hotel Severence this city to-day of rheumatism of the heart. He was a member of the Fox Hills Gold Club and widely known among railway men throughout the country. He will be buried in Muscatine, Ohio, where he formerly lived.

The Canadian Northern express was wrecked at Cralk, Sask., on Friday. Engineer McLeod had a leg broken in two places.

REAL ESTATE ACTIVE.

Considerable Local Activity—Timber Limits Are Changing Hands.

The real estate business in the city although not so active as it was at the first of the year is still steady, and large quantities of local property is changing hands.

The Dominion Real Estate & Exchange Company have within the last few days disposed of property principally to easterners, to the value of $15,000. Among some of the most important of these sales was a cottage and 3 lots on Cook street, the consideration for which has not been disclosed; the 8 choice lots on Hillside avenue opposite the Orphan's Home to a Saskatchewan investor; 3 lots in vicinity to a local investor and 2 lots in the new Oak Bay sub-division to Saskatchewan people.

The Royal Guarantee & Trust Company are principally engaged at present in handling timber limits both on the Island and the mainland. They have just completed the sale of several good sized tracts of timber land, and have also formed a local syndicate for the purpose of handling extensive limits on the mainland. Mr. Bledsoe, of this company, states that he considers that the sale of timber land in the past has been greatly hampered by careless staking and surveying. He considers, however, that the time has now come when limits some distance inland will be considered, providing the quality and quantity of the timber is up to the limit, because of the increasing difficulty to secure large tracts near the seaboard.

The company has already sent out several parties of timber cruisers, and another party leaves by to-morrow's boat.

The fruit lands in the Gordon Head district, sub-divided early in the spring by the Beaumont Boggs Co., are selling rapidly, and the owners are working hard to improve their property. Mr. McKay, of Winnipeg, has started a dwelling on his eight acres. Mr. Roland Machin is planting a large part of his twenty acres in strawberries.

THE HAGUE CONFERENCE.

(Associated Press).

Tokio, April 19.—The Emperor has appointed M. Tsuzuki, chief secretary of the privy council, to be a member of the house of peers and head of the Japanese delegation to the peace conference at the Hague.

BACK AT WORK.

Springfield, Mass., April 20.—A strike of 150 brewery workers in this city for better working conditions ended today, the men returning to work under an agreement that each man be allowed a gallon of beer a day for his personal consumption and a reduction of the hours of work.

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