

close of the shift immediately in front of the company's office. A few fire-bosses at once declared their intention of quitting work for the present, the rest remained behind to discuss what was best to be done. In a short time Mr. Stockett, manager of the Western Fuel Co., came out and addressed the men. He referred to the possible destruction of a part of the mine through fire unless he had workers to deal with the trouble. The men replied that their houses were in Nanaimo, that all they had was at stake, that they did not want any part of the property destroyed, that if he would recognize the union 50 men would go down the mine at once, or any number of men, and work until the fire was extinguished. His reply was that he was willing to meet a committee of his men who had been employed in the mine on April 30th. A committee was chosen at the next meeting of the union and arrangements were made for the committee, together with Mr. Farrington—International organizer of the union—to meet Mr. Stockett at 3 o'clock on the following day. Mr. Stockett, according to the committee, consented to this, but when the committee went to see him, he refused to meet them. The remaining fire-bosses on returning from the mine declared their intention of quitting work.

At South Wellington, a mining camp about four miles south of Nanaimo, ten strike-breakers had been brought in by the company operating there and set to work. They were housed on the company's property, in what was called the "Bull-pen." Much annoyance was caused by their presence. A number of union men in the evening of the 12th, determined to have them quit work. They approached the camp, explained their errand and asked them to stop work. Some resistance was offered. One strike-breaker who