

he has reached their Lordships, this erstwhile hater of dukes and aristocrats, will have secured all the glory he longs for. Then will he be a proud man. The Record will have too the satisfaction of sharing in his glory, as but for its powerful influence James would never have become prominent.

The Herald is the professed champion of 'Labor' and the ally of the U. M. W. Take note of the fact that it champions labor. A champion should be familiar with facts in connection with the cause he represents. Referring to a motion passed at meeting of Grand Council, P. W. A., asking that a practical man be placed on the Board of Examiners, the Herald remarks:—"Gd. Sec'y Moffatt was requested to communicate immediately with the Department of Labor (?) asking that the law in this respect be enforced." Anything for a fling at the Dept. of Labor. The Herald by this time should know that the Federal parliament is not held responsible for the enforcement of purely provincial laws.

A reader of the Record has suggested that the wisest policy to adopt, in his opinion, toward the Free Coal League, is one of silence. Oh, that is suggesting too much. Why should the Record be called upon to such an exercise of self denial. Why, the productions of the Free Coal League are a perpetual source of delight even though their appearance is intermittent. From the stand point of the critic the F. C. L. productions are so chuck full of such valuable misinformation, that a great joy would be denied us if we were prohibited from calling attention to them. When the league was strong, consisting on the testimony of A. Dick, of two men and a corpse, we may have prayed for its demise. It is different now. There is only a solitary sparrow left, and it is amusing than otherwise, to watch its peckings.

The U. M. W.'s of Springhill, with solemn faces, declare all that they want is British fair play. Well now that seems funny. One would never have thought that simple British fair play would be good enough for them. Does it not strike them that they ask for this British fair play through a very strange medium. How does it happen that this demand for British fair play is being made through a foreign organization? That is a most unusual procedure is it not. Though the strikers belong to an American, a foreign organization, their demand is not for American but British fair play. Would not such a demand be more consistently and appropriately made through a British organization. If British fair play is their hearts desire, why should they not also have a yearning for a British rather than an American organization. Why this running after false gods?

The Sydney Post is in doubt and distress of mind. That open letter of the local president has greatly perturbed it. Our contemporary is not so sure of its ground as it was a while ago. Speaking of the letter the Post says, "The impression which it gives after a hasty reading is that all the strife and ill feeling and stupendous loss might have been avoided by the exercise of plain common sense and a little judicious forbearance at the outset. The most obvious criticism which will occur to everybody is that this public explanation by the U. M. W. officials has been to long delayed." Quite so, it is belated, and be it noted particularly by the Post that such a declaration would not

now be forth coming, did not the U. M. W. officials realize that they were being pushed into the ditch. Well does the Post know that their first demands were for a full and a whole hearted recognition. They are now willing to take any old odd sort of a reception.

In closing his open letter, in a burst of enthusiasm, local president Dan. McDougall exclaims "We appeal with confidence to the judgement of all disinterested and fair minded men, and we believe that we must win because we are fighting in a righteous and honorable cause." The rightness or wrongness of a cause is in many cases a matter of opinion. In the present instance a vast majority of the public, and public opinion is the final court of appeal, hold that the U. M. W.'s were in the wrong from the beginning. Be that as it may the public with one voice declare that a righteous cause cannot be won by unrighteous methods. People well may be excused if they hesitate to believe a cause to be godly when those upholding it, have recourse only to devilish weapons. The local president is one of those who hope against hope. He seems to hope that a cause lost utterly already, by some sort of miracle may yet be won.

Premier Murray is reported to have told the delegation of prominent C. B. citizens, who waited upon him to primarily enlist his sympathies in favor of the U. M. W. and incidentally to show him how he might settle the strike, that he "conceded the right of the men to join a foreign organization." Of course, of course, they have the right, but in a similar sense to that used by a C. B. clergyman who in a newspaper controversy conceded the right of his antagonist to 'go to'—if his mind was bent upon it. The right to even go so far and to such lengths as 'go to' being conceded, what then? To take advantage of that right would stamp the one who availed himself of it as a fool, as non compos mentis. And the one who availed himself of a right to join a foreign trades union falls rightly into the same category. The law steps in where a man has attempted to take one of the shortest roads to 'go to' and failed. And why should not the law step in and prevent the working men of C. B. joining or attempting to join a foreign organization, when it is known that such joining means the destruction of the workmen's best interests.

But calmly, after all, was Premier Murray justified in making the concession.

In extremis—The Herald has it that the U. M. W., in revenge for the arrest of the local president, will take an action for conspiracy against the Dominion Coal Co., and possibly other operators. These will be charged as forming a combine to keep up the price of coal. In proof of this it is alleged that the price of coal at Glace Bay is the same as at Sydney Mines; in Stellarton the same as at Westville, and in Inverness the same as at Port Morien. The U. M. W. had better not flash. If W. C. Milner with the powerful aid of the Free Coal League, and the hearty co-operation of the still more influential Mining Record have tailed, after years of strenuous effort, to find out the name and habitation of that alleged combine, there is not the faintest hope that the U. M. W.'s will succeed. It is possible that the local president and his abettors might be successful in an effort to prove conspiracy against the grocers of