

opening up the North Slope again this fall, and had already commenced work clearing away for new men but this has been officially denied, it being stated that the Co. is now producing as much coal as they can find market for at the present time. The loss of the C.P.R. contract for a period of three years is one of the most serious phases of the strike that has been published for some. The C.P.R. formerly took in the vicinity of 40,000 tons from Springhill, and when Alex. Dick of the Dominion Coal Co. agreed to look after Mr. Cowans' interest while the strike was on, the Co. were not expecting that he would do it in such a generous manner that they would not be able to get it back again. But the Dominion Coal Company supplied the C.P.R. with the very best steam coal that this mines could produce, and were withal so affable about it, that the big railroad made a contract with them for three years. Hence a good many miners will be without their regular work, even if the strike were settled here, which no one expects at the present time."

The Royal Commissioners on Technical Education are doing Ontario and are having a royal time; and they are doing good work too. Perhaps the best piece of work they have to be credited with is the conversion of James Simpson from the evil of his way; and we are told what is the reward of the man who does that for a sinner. It was scarcely to be expected that Mr. Simpson—we won't call him Jimmie any more—could long travel in the company of Dr. Robertson and John Armstrong without "experiencing" a change of heart. Mr. Simpson's renunciation of socialism will have likely a stunifying effect upon the Glace Bay Jimmie. This is what the denatch from Toronto say:—"Mr. James Simpson, chairman of the Board of Education, member of the Commission on Technical and Industrial Education, and up till yesterday one of the foremost leaders of the Socialist party, has resigned from the latter body. Though this has been predicted for a long time when the news leaked out it caused no mild sensation. The rupture is over the refusal of Mr. Simpson to make known the nature of his report on technical education to the Socialists before submitting it to the government."

If the farmers of the West are calling out for reciprocity, the farmers of the East should set their faces against it. Those who should know best affirm positively that reciprocity in coal would seriously cripple the coal trade of the Province. The mines cannot be crippled without the effects

extending to the farmers, and indeed to all classes in the Province. The briskness in the coal trade during the past ten years has been of immense benefit to the farmers especially of the mining Counties. If expansion is hindered and growth retarded, then surely it will be a bad day for the tillers of the soil. They were never better off than at the present time and it cannot be in their interest that there should be any interference with the present order of things. The little advantage that might accrue to farmers through a reciprocity treaty would be far more than counter-balanced by the lessened and less profitable market they would have for their products. It behooves all classes in the community, in the Province to say to the federal authorities "No treaty that will interfere with the prosperity of our coal mines."

NEW BRUNSWICK OIL SHALES.

It looks at present as if New Brunswick would lead Nova Scotia in the establishment of extracting and refining oil from shales. Mr. J. M. McSween—Jack—formerly of the Dominion Coal Co., and who, from his long experience prospecting for and operating out shale deposits, may be termed an expert in oil shales, has received instructions to proceed to the Calhoun oil shale property in Albert Co., N. B., and get the shafts and slopes ready for the inspection of experts who sailed from Europe on Oct. 1st, for the purpose of looking over the possibilities. It is about eleven years since Mr. McSween first started with this company in the Westmoreland and Albert fields. He knows the ground well from Elgin to the famous old Albert mines, which produced a coal called Albertite, unequalled as an oil producer. Unfortunately the Albertite was pockety and run out or was lost. The Record is informed that the prospects for development are bright, though little is either said about the property or given out for publication. The owner of the areas, Col. Calhoun, has been in Britain for the past two years and it is understood that a company is being formed there with a capital of five million dollars. The plant which is to be up-to-date is calculated to cost a million and a quarter dollars, and will include retorts, crushers, breakers, refineries and a line of railway five miles long, connecting with the Salisbury and Harvey railroad. The chief supervisor of the work will be J. Edw. Calhoun, with J. M. McSween as second. The property has been thoroughly prospected and mining from two 8 feet veins can be started on short notice. These veins of shale, it is asserted, show by analysis a larger yield of

oil than those worked by the Pumpherson Company, in Scotland, and which enable the company to pay a fifty per cent. yearly dividend. It is also stated that the Calhoun property shales show a much greater yield of bye products than the shales of the Scottish company. Should developments proceed as expected The Record may have opportunity to report on the subject.

DEAN AND DISCIPLINE.

Speaking at a great Friendly Societies' Camp meeting at Norwich in celebration of the Ninety-Ninth Centenary, the Dean of Norwich (Dr. Russell Wakefield) said self-denial and self-sacrifice were the characteristics of the friendly societies, 'tho' these were the most unpopular qualities among a good many people. These societies taught the lesson that self-pleasing meant neither happiness nor usefulness. Friendly society men practised self-denial week all the year round for the benefit of those near and dear to them. These societies, moreover, emphasized the idea of brotherhood, and helped to make the national character stable and steady, and full of grit and determination. The national character was certainly in danger in these respects. Discipline was one of the essentials of to-day; and these societies presented a fine example of discipline and wise regulation. An illustration of the danger of becoming slack in discipline was to be seen in some of the very organizations which existed as a rule by and through discipline. Time was when people spoke of the existence of trade unions as dangerous. Now we were face to face with something entirely different. People were now saying how dangerous it would be for the nation if the trade unions lost their power of disciplining their members. He said to the manhood of England that it would be a terrible thing if, now that Labour was organized and had to some extent entered into its own, it should spoil all that it had done by being anarchical, and saying that it would not submit to proper rule and discipline.

A Cardiff boy was allowed a day off from school to celebrate his birthday, and in his glee jumped about until he fell into a filled copper boiler, and was terribly scalded. Although he recovered, the skin never returned to his right arm, so his two sisters, aged sixteen and thirteen, volunteered to undergo a skin-grafting operation. This was done successfully, the elder girl undergoing one, and the younger two operations, which have left indelible scars. The lad realizes and is grateful for his sisters' self-sacrifice.