

I marvel at the statement in your letter that you cannot see the force of the point that the West Report was not signed by the members of the Commission. I have before me an important business journal in this country, "The Journal of Commerce", which has a wide circulation among the business interests of Canada, and which has an article written by a professor of a western university on "The latest Phase of the Colorado Strike." The man who wrote the article meant to be fair. He thought when he got material contained in what purported to be a report of a commission of the United States Government, that he was getting authoritative data on which he could base his article. It is apparent that he has accepted the West Report as the findings of a responsible body in regard to that particular situation. I am perfectly sure that if the fact had come to his attention that this was not a report of the Commission itself, but, on the contrary, a mass of material for the truth of which the Commission would not itself accept responsibility, he would never have quoted from its pages, but would, as I many times have done, have grown indignant at an imposition of the kind being perpetrated upon the public by a public body at the public expense.

Your own statement that it is obvious that the report was printed with the authority of the Commission and that that fact to your mind, and you think to the public mind "gives it all necessary sanction for purposes of record", is the strongest argument I could bring in support of the very thing I am contending.