

AGREEMENT REACHED AT ROSSLAND, B.C.

Full details of the results of the negotiations between the committee of five delegated by the Rossland miners who had been employed in the mines in that camp of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, and officials of the company have been published.

In its report to the miners, after having been in negotiation with company officials, the committee said, in part: Owing to the unsettled state of the coal-mining industry, which condition has cut off the supply of coke for the smelting of the Rossland ores, it was found that any further work to be carried on by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company at this time must be development work. Your committee suggested to the officials of the company that, in their opinion, if at all possible, such work should be undertaken, so that the men who had already been out of employment five weeks could resume work, if only for a month or so. This the officials of the company agreed to do, the understanding being that as soon as the head-frame at the company's Centre Star mine is repaired, men will be put to work underground in the company's Centre Star, Le Roi, and White Bear mines, the company agreeing to start the work as rapidly as possible, until a maximum of approximately thirty machine drills shall have been started.

It was pointed out by the officials of the company, and agreed to by your committee, that the cost of this work should exceed the usual cost of such work when carried on under more favorable conditions, that is the cost of development work while operating at full capacity. The company's officials believe that much can be accomplished toward lowering this extra expense providing all men co-operate in reducing wastage to a minimum. This suggestion on the part of the company your committee believes to be fair, and we would suggest that all our members use their influence to make this development cost as little above the usual cost as possible.

While this work is being carried on the increase will be the War bonus of twenty-five cents per man per day, as set forth in the company's letter dated March 12th, 1917.

When the conditions in the Crow's Nest Pass again become normal and the company shall resume shipment of ore from the Rossland mines to the extent of 750 tons a day, there will be an increase of fifteen cents per man per day over and above the War bonus, this further increase to extend over a period of time of approximately two years.

In the opinion of your committee this arrangement is fair, and we would recommend that it be ratified by the members of the Union as a complete settlement of all matters under dispute.

Company's Proposals Accepted.

It was announced that the result of the miners' vote on the proposals of the company to the men was that they were almost unanimously accepted. The Rossland Miner, commenting editorially, said:

The men employed in the mines here, and the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, have reached an agreement in respect of the differences—if differences they can be called—that have existed between them, and it is now quite likely the situation will be cleared completely here if the Crow's Nest coal section employees and the coal-mine operators can reach an understanding; or, should the Dominion Government

answer the appeal of both the coal companies and some of the men and take charge of and operate the mines.

Upon the settlement of the Crow's Nest troubles depends solely, it would appear from the letter of Mr. J. J. Warren, managing director of the Consolidated Company, a complete resumption of operations in Rossland mines, but in the meantime the company has signified its willingness to care for the workmen remaining here through development work, although this, it is stated by those who know, will entail a greater expense than if the work were done with the property on a full working basis.

The company appeals to the men to co-operate with them in performing this work, while the coke conditions remain as at present, as economically as is possible, through preventing wastage, and in turn the committee representing the workmen make a similar appeal to the men, which indicates that both interests are willing to work to the end that the concessions made to the men may be effective and probably lasting until such time as better conditions shall prevail.

When such differences arise between the laborer and employer it is always a case of give and take, and the letter of the committee read at the meeting of the Miner's Union shows that the members of that committee pursued their duties diligently and worked untiringly to bring about a resumption of work by agreeing with the company, which is at present having other troubles through the shortage of coke affecting the big smelting plant at Trail, and by recommending the company's proposals be accepted.

It would appear from the understanding arrived at between the company and the men that, when all obstacles shall be removed—and it is sincerely hoped that this will occur soon—a complete resumption of work will take place in the company's mines in Rossland camp. May the trouble elsewhere clear at once. This is the hope of everyone resident in this region.

WHO AM I?

I am more talked of than anything else in America!
I am the autocrat of the commercial interests!
I control the treasuries of the world!
I command the bank clearances!
I am as powerful as Ajax!
I can stop commerce!
I am supreme!
Rulers and the common people alike
Take off their hats to me.
My aristocratic cousins, the luxurious Pullman car,
And the steel coach who in the past snubbed
Me, now crave my favors!
I am merciful!
I can help you, but
I lack energy!
You must supply that!
Left to my own efforts
I am inert and innocuous!
Energize me and you increase your bank account!
Stimulate me and the wheels of commerce revolve!

Who Am I?

I am the freight car!
I market your crops!
Load me promptly!
Unload me quickly!
Move me swiftly, and
You will prosper!

—St. Louis Furniture News.