

tiations were entered into between the officers of the P.W.A. and the management of the Dominion Coal Company for a lessening of the 15 per cent. reduction announced after the strike was called, and endorsed by the Coal Company when it assumed the management at Springhill, for a modification of the docking arrangement and for consideration for abnormal working places.

The strike leaders began to realize that the situation was daily getting more hopeless for them, and the Police Commissioner approached the Premier with a committee of strikers seeking through his intervention to obtain terms from the Coal Company which would enable them to return to work. After negotiations extending over several weeks, the Coal Company agreed to take back the men who had been on strike as fast as places could be found for them, the company stating it believed it possible to do this within 45 days. The finding of the Longley Board is to govern the method of docking for stone. The wages of coal producers will be reduced 10 per cent. below those existing prior to the strike, but fair consideration will be allowed in abnormal places. No other reductions are to be made in day wages, the schedule which was announced by the Coal Company in January remaining in force, with the exception of the concession to the coal-cutters.

The net result of the strike is that the U.M.W.A. has not gained recognition, that the award of the Longley Board with reference to the docking system which the men refused is to become effective, and that instead of increased wages, the coal cutters will suffer a 10 per cent. reduction.

The United Mine Workers of America have spent a lot of money in Nova Scotia to little purpose. It is estimated that in the strikes at Springhill, Glace Bay, Morien, and Inverness at least \$1,800,000 has been expended, and in each case the strikes were either abortive from the first or eventually unsuccessful. The chief reason for the failure of the U. M. W. to obtain recognition in Nova Scotia is that this organization is unnecessary. Taking advantage of an insignificant "insurgent" movement in the P. W. A., the U. M. W. attempted to usurp the jurisdiction of the Nova Scotian union, and posed as the heralds of unionism to a benighted mining population, ignoring the fact that Nova Scotia mines had been unionized long before the U. M. W. came into existence, and that the conditions under which Nova Scotian miners live and work are immeasurably superior to the conditions in the proper habitat of the U. M. W. of America.

Others reasons for the failure of the U. M. W. were the introduction of American strike methods, altogether foreign to Nova Scotian ideals, brutal and organized intimidation, the lavish use of union funds to corrupt those who could aid the strike cause or give the leaders information; the open advocacy of the extremest tenets of international socialism, and above all, the utter rottenness and insincerity of the whole U. M. W. campaign with its specious appeal to the foreign portion of the mining population and the newly arrived and credulous miner from the British Isles. The chief officials of the U. M. W. must have found it very difficult to explain, and more difficult to defend, the huge expenditure of union funds in Nova Scotia, where the status of the miner is higher than in any United States coalfield, where the fatality rate is lower and the conditions of living are better; where the true aims of unionism are better understood and practised than in any labour union affiliated with that reactionary and tyrannous body known as the A. F. of L.

Many of the miners of Nova Scotia were carried away by the midsummer madness of the U. M. W. agitation, and the unlimited promises of this union's paid organizers, accepting all too credulously the vapourings of migratory orators whose sole mission was that of destructive agitation. To-day the disgust of these men is all the deeper because of their first unsophisticated enthusiasm. Looking back over the past two

years is to review the most disastrous period in the history of Nova Scotian coal-mining, all the more to be deplored because of the entire needlessness of all the strikes which were called at the mandate of the United Mine Workers of America. There was not a grievance, real or fancied, in all the complaints of the U. M. W. which could not have been settled on better terms without the intervention of this alien organization, and without all the loss of money, reputation, and trade which has been entailed upon the miners and the coal owners.

ONTARIO.

Cobalt and Gowganda.

The power situation is now all that could be desired and the production from the camp is back at its former level in tons, but owing to increased concentration is lower in tonnage. All the silver prospects with money in the treasury to resume development have commenced to search for the white metal again and there are probably as many men now employed at Cobalt as during the past year and before the power shortage. But the speculative element has entirely disappeared, and unless a property can actually show silver in a fairly continuous ore body it is hard to raise money for development.

In the annual report soon to be published, the Buffalo mines will show a production of a million and a half ounces or approximately the same as last year. 1,250,000 ounces were produced at the mill from 41,000 tons of ore, or an average of about 30 ounces per ton milled. The ore reserves will be approximately the same, about 41 million ounces, the old reserves of last year scarcely being touched. Much of the ore this year has come from development on the new level at the 300-foot, and some old stopes on No. 10 vein.

The problem of the treatment of the low grade ore at the Crown Reserve and the Kerr Lake has been solved. It was at first proposed to erect a customs concentrator at Kerr Lake, but there was a hitch at the eleventh hour and the scheme fell through. Now an arrangement has been made whereby the Nova Scotia mill treats both the Crown Reserve and the Kerr Lake ore at a certain fixed price per ton for five years. The total amount contracted for is 175 tons from both mines, and the time fixed is five years. The Nova Scotia has to bear the expense of adding another 20-stamp to its equipment, to build the 6,000-foot aerial tramway, and give a guaranteed extraction. The bullion will be delivered back to the two companies for them to market themselves. The mill should be able to handle ore by the first of August.

Fire destroyed the power house at the Nancy Helen in the first week of June. The plant, which consisted of a gas producer plant, a hundred horse-power engine, and the first half of a 12-drill compressor, was probably worth about \$15,000. No work has been in progress for some time, and it is believed that fire must have originated from crossed wires. Negotiations were in progress whereby the control of the company was to be turned over to Port Arthur capitalists.

Mr. C. A. O'Connell has taken charge of the Trethewey mine, in place of Mr. George MacNaughton, who succeeded Mr. Frank Loring as manager. Mr. McNaughton is going to Porcupine after a visit to Nova Scotia.

A strike has been made at the 140-foot level of the Kerr Lake north of the shaft, showing a lead about two inches wide, but of very rich ore indeed. Very few shipments are being made from this property at the present time, the low grade being conserved until it can be treated at the Nova Scotia mill.

In a bush fire at the Beaver Lake station, South Lorrain, of the British Canadian Company, the power house was burned down and the transformers so damaged that they will have to be replaced. This will affect three mines working with electric power, namely, the Wettlaufer, the King George, and the Alice Lorrain. The accident will not affect the service to Cobalt and Kerr Lake at all.