

The next day the following telegrams were sent by Garnham, acting agent of the Vancouver division of the U.B.R.E., to officers at different points:

To J. T.
Revelstoke.

Estes working island miners successfully. Experts reach you Friday sure.

To C. C.
Revelstoke.

Estes delayed at Victoria tying up coal. All is well.

To H. C.
Calgary.

Estes delayed at Victoria tying up coal on Island. Will be there soon. All well here.

Further Evidence of attempts to stop Coal Supply.

Simultaneously with these telegrams, the following letter was sent by the same executive officer at Vancouver to one of the officers at Revelstoke, to whom he had wired in the matter. It confirms the statements contained in the telegrams and the representations made by Estes in the press interview above quoted. Moreover, it shows conclusively that, having secured the simultaneous action of certain organizations by way of sympathetic strikes, the main energies of the Brotherhood and its president, as pointed out in the account already given of the Vancouver strike, were directed at this time towards effecting a famine in coal, with the intention of completely crippling, if possible, the Canadian Pacific Railway, and this without any regard to the injury and loss which might be caused, either directly or indirectly, to innocent and neutral parties.

March 18, 1903.

C. C., Esq.,
Acting Agent Division 97,
Revelstoke, B.C.

Dear Sir and Brother.—Acknowledging your communication of the 16th. I wired Brother T. this morning that Brother Estes would be unable to reach there before Friday. This is owing to his endeavours to induce the miners at Union, on Vancouver Island, to quit mining coal, if it is to be sold to the Canadian Pacific Railway or allied steamship companies. Our greatest hold will be through causing a fuel shortage, not alone with the Canadian Pacific Railway but with every one who uses coal. We understand that there is considerable coal between here and Revelstoke, but it is our understanding that this coal is hardly fit for steam purposes, some of it having been on the ground for upwards of 12 months and exposed to the

weather. Get me what information you can as to the coal on hand at Revelstoke, North Bend, and Kamloops. These are the main points where coal supplied is kept on hand.

Yours in E.[quality], U.[nity],
and P.[rotection],

(Signed) S. GARNHAM,
Acting Agent Division 81, U.B.R.E.

U.B.R.E. and W. F. of M. interested in Coal Supply and Strikers.

From other telegrams and letters produced before the Commission, it would appear that both Baker and the U.B.R.E. officials were watching the interests of the strikers, and the coal supply during the weeks that followed. On March 23, Baker sent a circular letter from Nanaimo to local unions of the Western Federation of Miners, telling them of the organization of the miners at Ladysmith on March 15; giving an account of the strike and its alleged causes, and asking that a word of encouragement be sent from the several locals to the Ladysmith Union. On March 25, a telegram was sent from F. J. Halton, the secretary of the strikers' executive committee, at Vancouver, to Shenton, at Nanaimo, which was as follows:—'Coal coming to Vancouver said to be from Nanaimo. Please say.' On receipt of this telegram, Shenton interviewed the management of the Western Fuel Company at Nanaimo, and on the 28th reported to the Nanaimo union that the company had informed him that they had not shipped coal to the Canadian Pacific Railway for three or four years, and that about 150 tons per week were shipped to Vancouver by the company, but only for domestic purposes, and he so informed Halton at Vancouver. In his evidence before the Commission, Shenton stated that had it appeared as the result of the investigation made in consequence of this telegram that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company were being supplied with coal by the Western Fuel Company, the Nanaimo union would probably have taken steps to stop the supply to the Canadian Pacific Railway from that source. But he would not go so far as to state that the union would have violated its contract with the company to effect that purpose, or