

Where were they relit?—In the north, where there was sufficient gas to put them out?—Yes, there was sufficient.

Where do you think a person who did that ought to be?—It is not for me to say.

Annie Dawson said her late husband had told her that the men, frequently complained to Mr. Hushon about the gas, and his reply was they knew what to do if they didn't like it—they must go to work or else clear out.

After much evidence of a similar nature, the widows, seven in number, of the men whose bodies have not yet been recovered from the mine, and others whose dead had not been identified, were called, and stated that their husbands or relatives had gone to work as usual on the morning of the disaster. They had not seen them since.

THE BOY PROBLEM

In his New Year's articles in the Halifax papers, Mr. Drummond stated that two problems awaited solution, namely, the loader, and the boys in mines problem. Evidently the latter is attracting attention, as will be gathered from the Sydney Mines correspondent of the N. S. Herald:

Superintendent T. J. Brown has issued a special order to all the colliery managers asking them to adhere to the following rule in the Mines Regulation Act, Section 21:—"No boy of or above the age of twelve years, and under the age of sixteen years, shall be permitted to work in or about any mine below or above ground, unless he furnishes a certificate from the principal teacher of the schools, or school of the section, of having satisfactorily completed the prescribed course of study up to the end of Grade VII.

This is the saving boys clause of the Mines Regulation Act, and it is earnestly hoped that the colliery officials will recognize the law and keep the bright lights of this country out of the depths of the dark dirty earth. What a shame to see a father leading by the hand a tender youth of twelve years to the manager's office seeking employment for his son, and thus sacrificing his hopes and forever blasting his ambitions. No parent is so poor that he cannot afford to educate his son up to his sixteenth year. It may be possible that a poor widow is depending on only one son of tender years for support who may be deprived of work on account of this regulation; but if one door is closed, other doors are open for the poor widow, and all she need do is make application to Superintendent Brown and she will not be turned away with a sorrowing heart. The miners' unions are too loyal and generous to go back on the widow of the Social Company or any other company for that matter.

It has been decided by the Reichstag that the Kaiser and other German sovereigns must pay the tax increment in the value of land which is proposed to be levied in a bill now under discussion. During the debate a Socialist said that if the Princes of Germany were not prevented by their property from selling parcels of land, and thereby doing a good stroke of business, it was hard to see why it should hinder them from surrendering to the community a portion of their

profits like everybody else, and a Radical argued that the impost was not unprecedented, as whenever the Sovereign smoked a cigar, or whenever his Consort drank a glass of champagne, they were contributing to the public treasury.

The production for the State of Pennsylvania during the past year was about 230,000,000 tons, more coal during the past year than all the foreign countries on the face of the earth combined, with the exception of Great Britain and Germany. We stated in last week's paper that the production of Pennsylvania was larger than that of any foreign country in the world, with the single exception of Great Britain, but we forgot later that lignite coal had not been counted in with Germany's production so that "Deutschland" also produces a tonnage slightly in excess of Pennsylvania's figures, but 1911 will probably see that State with but one competitor in production figures.

Journal.

In the case of a man named O'Reilly, charged with causing the death of Francis McArdle, a coroner's jury in Dublin returned a verdict that McArdle died from the effects of poison administered by O'Reilly as a practical joke, and they did not attach any blame to anyone.

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