

mount importance of coal to Britain and the Allies in the successful prosecution of this war.

Mr. Lloyd-George says: "In peace and war King Coal is the paramount lord of industry. It is our real international coinage. We pay not in gold, we pay in coal. We cannot do without coal. In war it is life for us and death for our enemies. It not merely fetches and carries for us, it makes the material and machinery which it transports. It bends, it moulds, it fills the weapons of war. Steam means coal. Rifles mean coal. Machine guns mean coal. Cannon means coal. Shells are filled with coal. The very explosive inside them is coal, and then coal carries them right into the battlefield to help our men. Coal is everything for us, and we want more of it to win victory. Coal is the most terrible of enemies, and it is the most potent of friends."

The miner who refuses to mine coal because Germans and Austrians are also helping in the work is grievously mistaken if he thinks that in taking this stand he is helping the Empire. He is most efficaciously helping the Kaiser.

The illogical position taken up by those who refuse to work until the alien enemies are dismissed is so absurdly obvious as to lead one to hope that if the case were properly presented to these men they would reverse their present attitude, and it would appear incumbent on the Canadian Government to make an official pronouncement on the question. Surely the ways of politics are not so devious in Canada that some responsible member of the Cabinet cannot see his way to put this matter fairly and squarely before the workers of the country.

It may be definitely and authoritatively stated that no employer of labor in Canada would wish for a single moment to displace Canadian labor by alien enemies, but where the production of munitions of war is being hampered by a shortage of labor, what possible objection can there be to utilizing the aliens now in the country?

The Germans are using the machine shops at Liege and Herstal in Belgium, the iron mines of French Lorraine, the iron works around Lodz in Russian Poland, and as far as possible are making use of the working population in the occupied districts. If the Kaiser has any sense of humor he should be hugely tickled when he hears of our workmen going on strike because German are being allowed to help the Kaiser's enemies.

The recruiting during July and August in the Nova Scotia mining districts has been heavy and it is estimated that twenty per cent. of the workmen at the mines have now joined the military forces.

Owing to the demand for copper the output of precious metals by copper mining companies is much larger than usual. During the year ending June 30, Granby Consolidated, Canada's largest producer of copper, produced over 400,000 oz. of silver, obtained in treating the copper ores.

## WESTERN FEDERATION METHODS

In a recent issue of "Life," the well-known New York weekly, appears a protest against the conviction of John Lawson for murder committed during labor troubles in Colorado. "Life" protests on the ground that Lawson did not himself commit the murder.

Among the readers of "Life" is Mr. Homer Guck, editor of the "Mining Gazette," published at Houghton, in the Michigan copper country, the scene of the last big strike brought about by the leaders of the Western Federation of Miners. The impression made on Mr. Guck by the methods of the Western Federation leaders is exhibited in his open letter to "Life," dated August 10, 1915. Throughout the Michigan copper mining district are thousands who, since their experience with the Federation, share Mr. Guck's views concerning agitators. The letter says, in part:

"I remember four or five years ago reading articles in the socialistic magazines that were spread all over this section of ours preliminary to the entrance of the gangsters of the Moyer stripe, telling of the terrible conditions among the miners of Colorado and West Virginia. And I thanked goodness that there were no such conditions here, that we had lived in peace and prosperity and happiness for some fifty years or more with our mines and our miners and our citizens all doing pretty well and enjoying a happy family life. Then when the same gang that put out the tales about West Virginia and Colorado entered this district and began to spread the same awful lies about Michigan copper mines that they had used about the other states we awoke to the fact that if they were no more truthful about Colorado and West Virginia than they were about Michigan you couldn't believe much of them.

"E. O. J. says in your magazine that this man Lawson was convicted of a murder that he did not do. One night when our strike was at its very worst a gang of gunmen deliberately shot into a home occupied by an English family. They killed two innocent men as they slept in their beds. They wounded a little girl. These gangsters shot from a nearby woods. They were sneaking cowardly murderers of the worst type. There was no crime against the men they murdered. All they wanted to do was to work. They finally got one poor weak-kneed man to states prison for that murder. The real murderer was the man with the brain who filled the other fellows with rotten whiskey, took them to the spot and told them to shoot. The man who went to prison shot, alright, but was he as guilty as the man with the head who directed the work? Lawson directed the work in Colorado, and he got what he had coming to him. He was the brains. The others were the tools. And do you mean to assert that he goes to prison 'for a murder he did not commit' simply because he bossed the gang and perhaps did not fire the shot? And it is a satisfaction to know that in some parts of the United States at least they are able to send these murderers to prison for their crimes. In nine of ten cases they get away through intimidation of the juries, weakness of