The Miners In Council

Delegates at Wilkesbarre Discuss the Proposal to End the Strike.

And President Mitchell Recommends That Course In His Address.

Engineers Demur But Resolution Will Undoubtedly Carry By Large Majority.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 20.—The anxiously awaited convention of the 145,000 striking miners met today, but did not reach a vote on the proposed plan of settlement. It is expected to do so tomorrow. There were 662 delegates present in the Nesbitt theatre when the convention was held, and they were empowered by their local unions to cast 867 votes for or against President Roosevelt's proposition or arbitration. The great majority of the delegates were uninstructed. The few who were being engineers, firemen and pumpmen, who feared that the 5,000 strikers of these classes may not get back their old places, now held by non-union men.

This question of the engineers, firemen and pumpmen proved the only stumbling block in the way of almost immediate adoption of the President's plan, which carried with it the declaring off of the strike, and a general resumption of work through the 175 mile strip of hard coal mining region.

At one time today it seemed certain that the convention was about to adopt the recommendation of President Mitchell, to end the strike, but the steam men's plea was too earnest, and the final vote went over until tomorrow. It is practically certain, however, that the vote to declare the strike off will show a big majority for it. The leaders of the strikers, except Mr. Mitchell, were hardly heard at all in the convention today, the engineers being allowed to give full expression to their feelings.

But tomorrow it is predicted, the leaders will be heard, and one of them, a high district official, said today, there would be no more than 15 votes cast against the plan, which, the President of the United States has proposed to them, and which all the highest officials of the miner workers in this region earnestly have recommended. There were two sessions today, forenoon and afternoon, and the net result as regards the progress of the convention towards its object, was a permanent organization, with Mr. Mitchell in the chair, his speech laying the President's plan before the delegates, his eloquent impromptu speech advocating its adoption and the appointment of a committee on resolutions. This committee, as Mr. Mitchell said to the delegates, would prepare a formal statement to the public, telling fully and carefully why the convention decided to continue the strike if it should decide, and why the strike was declared off, if that was the outcome of their deliberations.

The question before the convention when it adjourned for the day, was the adoption of a resolution embodiment the President Mitchell's opening speech to call off the strike and leave all questions to the President's commission.

The afternoon session began at 2:10. The final reports of the three district secretaries comprising the credentials' committee, was called for, and they showed a total of 662 delegates present, authorized to cast 887 votes. The proceedings for a while moved rapidly. Without any speech-making, Mr. Mitchell was elected permanent chairman, and the national secretary-treasurer, W. B. Wilson was selected as the permanent secretary. Just as the cheering for the election of the two officers was ended, Mr. Mitchell, at 2:30 walked on the stage. The instant the delegates saw him they rose en masse and cheered their leader several minutes:

Mr. Mitchell said:

"Gentlemen:—In opening this convention for the transaction of business, I take pleasure in extending a warm greeting and welcome to the accredited representatives of the 150,000 men and boys, whose heroic struggle for living wages and American conditions of employment has won the admiration of the whole civilized world. Language is inadequate to express the sense of pride I feel in you and those you represent. Your noble defence of the principles of unionism endears you to every man and every woman in our land who accepted, as the ideal of manhood. When the history of the struggles of toilers shall be written, its pages will record no event more important, no principle more ably defended, no battle more bravely fought than the contest which I earnestly hope is now about to be happily ended.

"It is not my purpose to review the progress of the strike, or even to enumerate the important events which have now passed into history. Printed indelibly upon the hearts of our people are the memories of the sufferings and hardships which have been endured. For five long months the eyes of the nation have been centred upon your actions, and it is a pleasure to say that the great heart of American people throbbed in sympathy with you. It is, of course, a source of deep regret that the millions of under-paid workmen in our great cities should be the most acute sufferers by reason of this contest between ourselves and our employers, but strange as it may appear, hundreds upon hundreds of those who suffered most from the lack of fuel seat words of commendation and encouragement to us, and in many instances declared that they would suffer any privations in order that the miners and their families might secure a sufficient wage to enable them to enjoy a little happiness and sunshine instead of the gloom and sadness which has been their lot for many years.

"The debt of gratitude we owe our fellow workers in this and other lands, the debt of gratitude we owe a generous public and a friendly press who have supported and sustained us during the memorable strike, can never be adequately repaid.

"For our opponents we entertain no feeling of malice; while they have maligned our characters, impugned our motives and sought the victory by methods which we should scorn to use, yet on this day, when we secured an avenue of redress, when the realization of our hopes and ambitions seems near, when the prospect of a brighter and happier future seems assured, we should hold out to them the hand of friendship and ask them to join us in providing for such business relations as shall for all time establish peace and tranquility in the coal fields.

"The day is past when great organizations of capital can maintain the false position that their employees shall be denied the right to organize into compact bodies and speak through the organization of which they are members. We recognize that right of capital to consolidate, to federate and to speak and act through its organization, but in accordance with these rights and privileges to capital we demand, and shall assert, the same privileges for those who toil. Between the combination of capital on one hand, and the organization of labor on the other, there should be no irreconcilable conflict; each is a factor in the economic development of our civilization, and the application of business judgment and plain commonsense by each would enable them to work in harmony. While the interests of labor and capital are not by any means identical, they are, nevertheless, reciprocal; each is dependent upon the other, and under our form of government one cannot prosper without the other. Abraham Lincoln truly said that 'Capital is the fruit of labor and could not exist if labor had not first existed; labor therefore deserves the first consideration.'

"That this fundamental principle will be recognized by the tribunal selected by the President of the United States, I have no reason to doubt.

"The grave question which you have been called upon to consider today demands and must receive utmost careful thought. Personally I should have preferred an adjustment of the difficulties existing in the anthracite field by conference with the anthracite mine owners and without the intervention of agencies not directly involved, but I recognize the fact that relations between ourselves and the mine operators have become so strained as to render direct negotiations at this time impossible. If the consequence of this strike affected only the interests of the operators and mine workers, there would be less reason for the intervention of a third party, but the fact that a coal famine was upon the people of Eastern and seaboard states, and threatened to become a national calamity, justifies the action of the chief executive of our nation in his earnest effort to bring about an early resumption of mining.

"The proposition submitted for your consideration may have objectionable features, and in its detail may not meet with the unanimous approval of your people, but it is immeasurably better, as now presented, than when originally offered by the representatives of the coal corporations.

"I am firm in my conviction that the prompt acceptance of this proposal will secure to the anthracite mine workers and those dependent upon them a greater measure of justice than they could attain by continuing the conflict; I believe that the prompt acceptance of this proposition will secure to the mine workers a greater degree of justice than has been enjoyed in the past.

"The people of our country await with anxious expectancy the result of your action today; the eyes of the nation are centred upon you, and friends and foes alike demand the submission of issues involved in this strike to the tribunal nominated by the President of the United States. That there are discordant elements in this convention; that there are dissatisfied ones at home, I am fully aware; but, gentlemen, with all the earnestness of which I am possessed, I urge that you give your approval to the action of your executive officers who have recommended acceptance of the proposition, that the strike be declared off and all men are then to resume work in the positions occupied by them prior to the inauguration of the strike, and that all questions at issue be submitted for adjustment to the tribunal selected by the President of the United States."

A Panther Creek engineer was the first to take the floor in opposition to accepting the plan, until he and his colleagues had some assurance that they would be reinstated in their old positions. "The and pumpmen are not so numerous. At they will not dismiss the men now employed by them and place strikers in their positions."

A number of other delegates spoke along the same lines. The positions for miners and mine laborers are numerous enough to give nearly all of them employment, said one of the delegates, who is a member also of one of the railway unions, but those for engineers, firemen and pummen are not so numerous. At this point, a delegate arose and asked Mr. Mitchell to express his views on the subject. He immediately responded, and made one of the most important addresses he has been called on to make during the past five months. He spoke slowly and clearly, and every word was listened to with the deepest interest. It proved to be the real speech of the day. The strike leader spoke as follows:

"Gentlemen of the Convention: I desire to inform you that the president of your organization has done all he can to turn the attention of the companies towards the men who are now on strike. As you know, the companies refuse direct negotiations with us. Through intermediaries we have received assurance that the companies are to meet the issues fairly; that they are not disposed to blacklist the men; that they do not propose to be vindictive; that as far as possible men are to be returned to their old places. It may take some time before that can be brought about, and it may be that some of you men will not be restored to your former positions at all. When you vote on this proposition, you must do it with as full knowledge of the situation as I can give you. Now let me emphasize this point, that the poorest boy that worked in a breaker is as dear to us as the men who run the engines; that while we shall try winn all the power we have to get every man that struck back his old job, we will make special efforts for none and show special favors to none. We want the engineers and the firemen and the pummen and the inspectors and the bosses to go back, but we do not want them to go back one bit more than we want the little breaker boys to go back. There was no single class of workmen who went out on a sympathetic strike. Every man who struck, struck for wages. He struck for exactly the same thing miners and mine laborers struck for. As far as it is within the power of the union, we shall afford protection to every man, union or non-union, who went out on strike with us. But, gentlemen, it may be true that some will be sacrificed; and much as we shall regret that, I desire to say that no battle was ever fought, no victory won, that did not carry with it some victims. Lives have been lost to gain the most brilliant victories that ever were won in the world. If it appeals to your judgment to accept the recommendations of your officers, if you decide to defer to the judgment of the President of your country, if you wish to be guided by the advice of your friends all over the land, and decide to return to work, the United Mine Workers of America will protect the man who happens to be left out of his job.

"In our pledge to the President of the United States, we notified him that we would recommend to you a resumption of work. We said to him that we should recommend a return of our people to their old jobs, and if the coal companies fail to give our men their old places, if they fail to treat them reasonably, we shall carry the question to the tribunal named by the President and ask that tribunal to decide that we are entitled to the work we left when we went on strike.

"Now, gentlemen, those are my views. I have no assurance that if you return to work on Wednesday that all of you will be given back your old places. I do believe, however, that the coal companies will gradually displace the men who have your jobs and give you your old places again. I dare say that hundreds of men were brought here from the cities and from the farms, to take your places, will return to the cities and farms when you go back. I have no doubt that before two or three weeks have rolled by, there will be no question about the re-installment of the men. However, remember this, that when your votes are cast, I want you to cast them with the full knowledge that some of you may not get your old places back. I dare say the companies are anxious to have competent engineers, firemen, pumpmen and inspectors, as you are to fill these places, and you know that the men brought here to take your places are not competent to run the hoisting engines; that the firemen they brought here have not been successful, and while the companies will not go out before the public and say they will "sacrifice the men who stood by them," as they call it, they will in most cases be glad to have their old competent workmen back."

Another delegate made a speech against ending the strike without definite assurance of reinstatement, and Mr. Mitchell was again called upon for an explanation of the status of the arbitration plans as it now stands.

In response to this request he said:

"We have not adopted their propositions. As they made it, the proposition would never, with my consent, be adopted. When the coal companies thought to practically name the arbitrators; we objected, and secured a modification of their proposition. That modification enabled the President to select men outside of the class suggested by the operators. Organized labor is represented on the commission. I do not, however, assume that either the capitalists or the trade unionists who are on the commission, will permit their special interests to influence their judgment in making their decisions, but organized labor is on that commission, and it is there beacuse the President of the United States wanted it there, and because we would not agree to the proposition unless it was there."

A committee on resolutions was then appointed, and at 5:18 p.m. the convention adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

COKE SUPPLY SECURED.

Northport Smelter Blows In Two More Furnaces.

Rossland, Oct. 20.—The Northport smelter blew in two furnaces today, ample coke having been received from Comox, Cokedale, Washington and from Crow's Nest. The general manager, Mr. Mackenzie, is now confident that coke will be forthcoming to supply the smelter all winter and that there will be no further interruption of activity. This is welcome news in Rossland, as it guarantees that there will be no interference with the operation of the big Le Roi mine with its 350 employees and monthly pay roll of $35,000.

Foresters At Westminster

District Meeting of Ancient Order In Progress at Royal City.

Chinese Killed by Tram Car--Delta Has Big Oat Crop.

From Our Own Correspondent.

New Westminster, B. C., Oct. 20.—The district meeting of the Ancient Order of Foresters, convened this afternoon, there being present 16 delegates from the principal cities of the province, including J. P. Hancock, J. W. Bolden, Fred. Carne, jr., C. Wrigglesworth, F. Nelson, D. C. R., S. A. Barclay, D. T., and F. P. Watson, D. S., Victoria; and Arthur J. Randall, Alex. Forrester, Lawrence Manson and J. K. Hickman, Nanaimo. The business of the opening session was confined to routine and reception committee reports. It is expected the sessions will terminate tomorrow afternoon, and will be productive of much good to the order. After adjourning the visitors will be shown the sights and tomorrow evening will be banquetted.

A third serious accident and second fatality within a month occurred this morning on the electric railway. A motor car and two others loaded with crowd got beyond control on the grade of the new branch leading to Coughlan's brickyard. Taking fright at some of the load spilling, two Chinese occupants of the caboose jumped. One rolled back from the bank beneath the wheels and was killed, the other had his legs broken, but will survive. Both wood cars were derailed, and one was badly smashed, but the motor or car kept on the track and those who remained with it were unhurt. Although the emergency brake was applied, and the sand box opened, the cars had too great impetus to be stopped on the grade. An inquest will be held tomorrow.

Reports from East Delta indicate that the oat crop will exceed two hundred thousand sacks, and threshed returns show the grain unusually heavy. One farmer's threshing was paid for at an average of 105 pounds per sack, nine pounds above the normal, while single sacks ran as high as 115 pounds. About 1,000 acres more land than last year are under cultivation, and all other crops especially hay and potatoes, are excellent.

CHURCH AND STATE.

Their Separation Comes Up in French House.

Paris, Oct. 20.—With the opening of business in the Chamber of Deputies today Ernest Roche (Nationalist) introduced a bill providing for the separation of church and state, the abolition of the budget of public worship and the suppression of the French embassy at the Vatican. The bill was presented as a challenge to the government to carry out the Radical programme. Rouche declared that the question had figured long enough in the Radical platform, and that if the struggle against the congregation was sincere the government ought to carry out the separation of the church and state.

The deputy demanded that the chamber declare urgency for the measure, but Premier Combes refused to accept the motion, saying the bill was only intended to embarrass the government. Henri Brisson declared that he and his Radical friends would also oppose urgency for the same reason.

The Chamber rejected the urgency motion by 285 to 179 votes, but ordered an early discussion of a counter proposition referring all bills dealing with the separation of church and state to a special commission, which M. Lasses (Nationalist) said meant "funeral for the bills."

WOMAN'S WEALTH IS HEALTH

Paine's Celery Compound

Gives Vitality, Vigor and Strength to Debilitated and Rundown Women.

It is maintained by many writers that the greatness of a nation depends much upon the physical condition of its women. The general conditions which contribute to health and long life, are those which do not imply a rapid and unequal exhaustion of those powers by which life is maintained. While we assert that the women of our land stand peerless for beauty and the virtues that make them lovable, we cannot hide the fact that there are thousands in our midst who, owing to overwork, worry, household cares, and an unequal exhaustion of life power, have become weak, nervous, sleepless and debilitated.

We bring to the attention of all weary, despondent, hopeless and sickly women earth's great rescuer and health-builder, Paine's Celery Compound. Thousands of healthy women around us owe their present vigor, activity and robustness to Paine's Celery Compound. No other medicine has done such a work for women, and no other has ever received such strong and grateful letters of testimony. Mrs. W. B. Phelps, of Phillipsville, Ont., says:

"For two years I was in a miserable state of health, and so nervous that sleep went from me. In my anxious condition it was no pleasure to live. After use of Paine's Celery Compound for ten days I found myself very much improved and I was enjoying rest and sleep. I have since taken Paine's Celery Compound from time to time, and find that it keeps me well and strong. I recommend Paine's Celery Compound at every opportunity."

The Council In Session

Business Transacted At the Regular Weekly Meeting Yesterday Eve.

Mr. Justice Martin Wants Information--A Complaint On Sewer Flushing.

Yesterday evening's session of the City Council was a brief but somewhat interesting one. The water commissioner forwarded a letter sent him by Mr. Justice Martin, in which information was asked by the latter as to the sums paid and amounts due by certain water consumers in his neighborhood, and also replies to the questions as to who, among a list of about 60 residents in Mr. Justice Martin's neighborhood had meters, or who had not. The Council decided to press upon the Tramway company the desirability of extending the tram service along Douglas street to the city limits, as was the case in former years. The sanitary inspector, in a special report, complained of the new method of flushing the main sewers, pointing out that the health of the city might be affected by lack of attention to this important matter. Ald. Barnard's by-law to amend the sewer bylaw was laid over.

His Worship Mayor Hayward presided and all the Aldermen were present.

Ald. Yates, on a question of privilege, pointed out that he had been misrepresented in respect to the proceedings of the last meeting. He had not said that Mr. Topp should be given an increase in salary. Mr. Topp had not asked for such, but simply remuneration for special services rendered, and it was on this portion of Mr. Topp that his remarks of a former meeting was based.

Mr. Justice Martin's letter to the water commissioner, asking for certain information mentioned above, was next taken up.

Ald. Grahame was not in favor of the Council instructing Mr. Raymur to answer the query as to the amount of money paid or due by certain water consumers. He considered it in a sense a private matter, and doubted if the city had the right to divulge the information.

After some debate, on motion of Ald. Yates, it was decided to instruct the water commissioner to give the information which was sought. Ald. Williams pointing out that it was public property.

Geo. Phillips, on behalf of the Choral Festival Society, asked that the Council endorse the project as already outlined in the Colonist, and grant the privilege of using the council chamber as a practice hall.

Ald. Yates spoke very approvingly of the project, and on his motion the desired privilege was granted.

Thos. Earle, M.P., acknowledged receipt of a letter from the Council asking him to use his endeavors towards getting the old postoffice site as a location for the Carnegie library. He had already taken the matter up and was continuing to do his best in the matter.

Alex. Munro complained of the existence of an open drain on the south side of Michigan street. Referred to city engineer.

John Piercy asked for information concerning water privileges as affecting a strip of land fronting on Elk Lake. Referred to city engineer.

John Haggerty wrote, offering to supply the city with a quantity of tram rock for use at Point Ellice bridge at $1.25 per yard. Referred to city engineer.

The city engineer acknowledged receipt of letters containing requests for small drainage improvements. Received and filed.

Sanitary Inspector Wilson wrote somewhat lengthily complaining of the method now in vogue of flushing the main sewers. In his opinion the old method was far superior, and the present unsatisfactory plan gave him much anxiety for the city's health, which was in a very satisfactory state at all times under the old system of flushing. What little sickness now existed could, in his opinion, be traced to the dead ends of the surface drains. He pleaded for a better system of ventilation in the main sewers.

Ald. Yates, discussing the report, feared that the water commissioner was inclined to try and save the water supply at the expense of the health of the city, and he deprecated this.

The matter was referred to the streets, sewers and bridges committee.

The finance committee recommended the payment of accounts amounting to $5,807.68. Adopted.

The streets, bridges and sewers committee reported as follows:

Gentlemen,—Your streets, bridges and sewers committee having considered the undermentioned subjects, beg to recommend the following resolutions for the adoption of the Council, namely:

RE POINT ELLICE BRIDGE.

1. Resolved that the city engineer be authorized to purchase the necessary piles for the foundation work of Point Ellice bridge

2. Resolved that the offer of Mr. Alfred Wood, contractor for supplying cut stone for the piers and abutments of Point Ellice bridge, to have the stone cutting done in Victoria instead of at the quarry, as contained in his letter to the city engineer, dated the 29th ult, be accepted, on condition that all waste stone resulting from said work or stone cutting, belongs to the city, and that the men employed by Mr. Wood in the work shall have the privilege of using the hand derricks belonging to the corporation when not in use by the city workmen on the bridge, and that the city solicitor be instructed to prepare a contract in accordance with these terms.

RE SUNDRIES.

Resolved that the following work be done, viz: That an open drain be laid down on Williams street, Victoria West, at a cost not exceeding $30.

That the drain be extended on Third street, as per communication of J. D. Watson, at a cost not exceeding $38.

That a box drain on Dallas road be extended, as per communication of A. A. Dean at a cost not exceeding $20.

That a sewer be laid on Collinson street to connect with the Home for Aged and Infirm Women, at a cost not to exceed $175.

That the following sidewalks (plank) be laid, viz:

On Turner street, between David and Henry streets, as per communication of J. S. Leigh, at a cost not exceeding $50.

That a gravel sidewalk be laid down on Belmont avenue, from the end of the present sidewalk, at a cost not exceeding $75.

That sidewalks be laid on the following streets, namely: Churchway, north side, between Douglas and Blanchard streets, cost not exceeding $112. Oswego street, west side, between Michigan and Simcoe streets, cost not exceeding $82. Simcoe street, from Menzies street westerly 440 feet, cost not exceeding $75.

All the above expenditures to be subject to a report from the finance committee, and the issuance of warrants therefore by the Council.

Ald. Grahame's motion that the Tramway company be requested to extend its service from the present terminus at Burnside road to the city limits, as formerly, was then taken up. Ald. Grahame said he was aware that the Tramway company could not be compelled to act in accordance with this wish, but he thought it could profitably do so and ought as a matter of justice to the residents at the north end, do so. He explained the status of the matter, pointing out that the line was laid, if he remembered rightly, during the time that the late Hon. Theodore Davie was a director of the Tramway company, and that on his death, the service was discontinued. He congratulated the Tramway company on the excellent condition of the tracks now on Douglas street. Quoting from a report made by Horne Payne, he showed that the population of Victoria was really as great as Vancouver, though the figures showed differently. Vancouver was scattered, with its street limits extending away out in the country; but in the case of Victoria, there were populous districts just outside the limits which really had to be considered as part of Victoria. He believed the operation of the line would pay, though Mr. Goward had informed him otherwise.

Ald. McCandless could not see why it would not pay, and favored putting a little pressure upon the Tramway company.

Ald. Yates favored the resolution.

Ald. Kinsman also heartily supported the motion of Mr. Grahame. He thought that many people had been induced to build out there from the fact that the service was inaugurated, and now it seemed an injustice not to give them a service.

Ald. Vincent introduced a by-law which was read a first and second time, which aims at giving the privilege to companies which own poles carrying wires in the city to remove placards and signs if it is deemed desirable; also to make it compulsory to have all poles erected in the city in the future, painted.

Ald. Barnard asked for permission to lay over consideration of his sewerage by-law. The permission was granted, and the Council will meet in private session on the by-law on Thursday evening.

The Council then adjourned.

SUPREME COURT.

Yukon Mining Appeal Argued Yesterday

Ottawa, Oct. 20.—(Special)—In the Supreme court today the appeal of Davignon v. Jones, Rutledge and Davis, a half-million dollar case involving the ownership of Claim Thirteen, Gold Run Creek, Yukon, was argued. Mr. F. Peters and Mr. L. P. Duff, for appellants; Mr. Wade and Mr. E. P. Davis, for respondents.

MR. MAXWELL.

Returning Home Somewhat Improved in Health.

Winnipeg, Oct. 20.—(Special.)—Mr. G. R. Maxwell, M. P., for Vancouver, was a passenger on the West-bound express today. Mr. Maxwell kept to his berth while here, and denied all visitors. He is somewhat improved in health, and has stood the journey well to this point.

BONDS PURCHASED.

Eleven Millions Received at United States Treasury.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 20.—The amount of bonds purchased by Secretary Shaw under his recent offer and received at the Treasury Department up to noon today, was approximately $11,000,000.

The Manual Training Schools

Trustees Recommend That the Work Be Carried on When Grant Expires.

Address Given By Prof. Robertson Regarding That Branch of Ecucation.

A meeting of the School Trustees was held last night at the City hall, at which the question of manual training was considered, and in view of the fact that the grant of the McDonald fund expires in June, the trustees decided to recommend that the work be carried on and that assistance to that end be asked from the provincial government. Prof. James Robertson, the organizer of the Manual Training schools throughout the Dominion, was present, and addressed the trustees at length on the subject. He said that especially in a country of self-government it was necessary that the people should be intelligent, that they might be able to govern themselves. The school board prepares people for self-government, and that it should better do so, he would like to have the board deal with manual training in Victoria. For a long time it was thought that the school was for imparting intellectual instruction, to teach the child to repeat names and state many unimportant facts. The child has been improved through the personality of the teachers. It was better than a bookish education, though, that the boy be made capable. And manual training was imperative. It would not lessen the liking for books, but would train the observation and make the boy better for self-government. The training of the boy to do things would add to his intellectual power. Education stands always for acquiring power, not for knowledge to be repeated. Manual training gives power, and the schools of Canada, where people are more self-governed than their neighbors, should do more for the boys.

Everybody begins life uneducated, totally ignorant, entirely selfish and utterly helpless—which are the marks of an uneducated person, and as the school helps the boy from these states, it educates him. Books help him to intelligence, but to make him personally practical, he must be taught to do things. Selfishness is not trained out by repeating the catechism, but by doing things that are useful, and manual training does that. The ultimate aim of the school house should be to train good character, and it is by doing things that this is done. Manual training brings the boy closer to the actualities which confront him after school life.

After congratulating the people of Victoria on the excellent buildings here, the new High school building being a civic institution of which the citizens should be proud, Mr. Robertson went on to give statistics of the manual training centres. There were 20 centres in towns and villages now, all of which began in a small way. There are 41 teachers on the staff and 7,000 boys getting training. He read many eulogistic reports from principals of Toronto schools, describing the work in the centres there. In the provinces east of the Great Lakes the local governments were carrying on the work, and making grants for that purpose. Not only were the school boards doing all they could, but also the local governments. The effect of the McDonald fund was to graft manual training into the educational system, and it had been fairly successful. Today, the speaker said, he was to meet the local government to discuss the matter with them, and he knew the members to be in sympathy and willing to do what their resources would allow.

Continuing, he said Sir William McDonald and himself did not help manual training for its sake alone, or solely for the boys' sake. Sir William was in favor of helping the rural schools, arguing that now the better educational facilities of the cities depleted the country too much; but it was necessary that the movement be commenced in the cities, where public opinion is moulded. The manual training was the first step to a large movement, that of nature study and household science. The scope of the last movement does not include British Columbia at present. Now the rural school is usually poor, a little building with perhaps a dozen pupils and a young, inexperienced teacher to deal with the plastic minds and growing character—thus causing an appaling waste of child life. The idea to improve this state of affairs is the consolidated school. In Iowa—at a point visited by the speaker on his way West—the children were collected for some distance and driven to the school—a graded school with nine teachers—in vans. Five schools of this kind are to be established in Canada—east of the Great Lakes. Each of the schools would include manual training. At each of these nature study and household science schools, there will be a school garden, and planting would be done. The schools would be made attractive—and a school should always be made attractive. Object lessons would be taught, and the fact that 55 per cent. of some Boston school children had never seen a fig, made them necessary. There will be little garden plots for each pupil—and the speaker would like to see this in Victoria. In these gardens the pupils would be taught to grow useful things as well as flowers. The pupil should know what he lives upon—should, like the chipmunk or other animal, know his surroundings. He should be taught fundamental knowledge.

To carry out this scheme for nature study and household science, a staff of teachers are being trained at Columbia University—where some of the best educational experts are looking after their welfare. The money given for manual training by Sir Wm. McDonald was given as a step towards this scheme, and the speaker hoped the people of this city would carry on the work and improve it, and perhaps eventually establish a model school, such as those described, in this city. To carry on the work of manual training, it would cost about $4,000 a year. The grant expired in June next, and the agreement with the teachers in August next, so that $2,000 would carry it on during the next year. The bulk of the cost would no doubt come on the cities, and the speaker would suggest that the cost be laid before the public in this way—that if the school tax were increased for the purpose, it would need but 10 per cent. increase. The work in Victoria had been well done, and he thanked the teachers and pupils for it, and was thankful for the reception given the training in this city. He hoped to be able to donate the equipment, which remained in possession of the fund, to the various centres here, and hoped the teachers would remain, and he thought they would. In answer to a question he said a teacher for nature study and household science would involve an expense of $750 per year, and three centres would be necessary, each at a cost of about $300—a total of $1,000 for the equipment in Victoria. The speaker said he would meet the teachers at the City hall at 4:15 today to address them regarding the nature study.

A discussion followed the address, the teachers expressing themselves favorably towards the continuation of the manual training, and after many resolutions had been drawn up, the following resolution, moved by Trustee Jay and seconded by Trustee Boggs, was carried: That the attention of the Minister of Education be called to the fact that the present agreement with the representative of the McDonald manual training fund expires in June next, and that some assurance be invited from the department as to how far the government will be prepared at the next session of the house to amend the School Act so to provide for assistance to the cities of the province in the maintaining of the Manual Training schools. It was also moved by Trustee Drury, seconded by Trustee Huggett, and carried, that this board desires to place on record its high appreciation of the benefits of the Manual Training schools, and in their opinion the course of instruction in manual training should be continued by the board and be made a permanent feature of our public school system.

The trustees, after moving a vote of thanks to Prof. Robertson, spoke of their appreciation of his work, and in reply he thanked them, and said his work would bring him to this province more in future. He had been busy exporting for the War Office during the past two years, but now his work in the agricultural schools and rural schools would bring him into touch with the board further.

On motion of the chairman, it was resolved that tenders be called for the following supplies: .2¾ cases of chalk, 3½ gross of erasers, 300 gross of pens, 45 gross of lead pencils, 100 reams of paper, letter size, 40 reams print, 2 reams of blotting paper, 5 reams of drawing paper, and 75 gallons of ink.

MINING AT SAANICH.

Several Claims Staked at Todd's Creek —Work Progressing.

David Hammond, who has taught school at Mount Sicker for the past year, has resigned his position in order to devote all his time to the development of his mining properties on Saanich Arm, within 10 miles of this city. He holds interests in four claims, viz., the Copper King, Erie, Frank, and Nell. The last was staked for a vein which gives indications of cinnibar, while the others are said to show good values in copper, gold and silver. Mr. Hammond has disposed of a quarter interest in the Erie for $500, to E. F. Kierstead, of Mount Sicker, and work is being pushed upon the claim. Development is also progressing on the Copper King and Frank claims.

Mr. Hammond states that these claims which are situated immediately adjacent to Todd creek, are in the same mineral belt which crops out on Mount Malahat, on the opposite side of Saanich Arm. He says the mineral bearing veins can be traced right to the water's edge on Willis' Point, and the outcrop on Malahat is in a direct line with them.

The vein on the Copper King, according to Mr. Hammond, is 20 feet wide and carries large percentages of gold, silver and copper. Ore from the Erie is said to assay from $20 to $26 in all values.

About 15 claims have been staked in the vicinity of Mr. Hammond's properties, and work is being done on several. Among those interested are Messrs. Thomas Graham, W. E. Lemming Jones, Butler, Thomas Tammond, Robert Graham, Stuggitt and Dunphy.

IN SIMILKAMEEN.

Presence of Large Bodies of Coal is Now Assured.

Percy F. Godenrath returned to Grand Forks recently after a 16 days' saddle trip through the mining camps of Similkameen. Speaking of the trip, Mr. Godenrath said: "At Princeton the coal basin is being exploited at depth with the aid of bore drills. The greatest depth attained was 1,000 feet, by the Admiral Coal company. At a depth of 700 feet, the bore passed through four seams of six and four feet, separated by a shale parting of a few inches.

"Wm. Blackmore, M.D., informed me that these are upper seams in a series which consists of three zones, and he estimated that the whole of the coal bearing strata would be passed through at a depth of 1,500 feet.

"The Tolt syndicate sunk some 800 feet, and it is reported the bore passed through seams aggregating 43 feet of coal.

"On the Bodwell location, owned by the Osoyoos & Similkameen Coal & Exploration company of Spokane and Toronto, there is a surface exposure of 12 feet of solid semibituminous coal. This showing is regarded as the largest surface deposit yet discovered in a coal basin. It adjoins the property of the Holt syndicate.

"Boring operations establish the fact that whether or not coking coal is discovered, the coal is an excellent steam and domestic fuel. Great interest is being manifested in the Princeton coal basin, and prospects are highly encouraging. The Great Northern railway has Engineer Baldwin and party making a reconnaisance of passes through the Hope range.

"With transportation facilities once in the Similkameen it will open up, in my opinion, one of the richest sections of the whole province, containing precious metal, and coal, ranching, timber and farm lands."

AFGHAN FRONTIER.

Russia Trying to Establish Relations With Cabul.

London, Oct. 20.—That the recent reports of Russia's desire to establish direct relations between St. Petersburg and Cabul (Afghanistan) were well founded, were admitted by Lord Cranborne, under foreign secretary, in the House of Commons today. Replying to a question of Sir Seymour King, Conservative, Lord Cranborne said the British government had received a communication from the Russian government proposing that direct relations be established between Russia and Afghanistan in regard to frontier matters. Russia set forth that the relations would not have a political character as the Russian government maintained its former engagements and continued to consider Afghanistan outside of the sphere of Russian influence.

The British government replied that it was impossible to consider any change in existing arrangements without more precise information regarding the proposed relations, the limitations to be placed on them, and the means for ensuring the observation of such limitation.

Lord Cranborne added that no answer had yet been received to Great Britain's reply.

DARBY AND JOAN IN AUSTRIA.

The following not very uncommon advertisement recently appeared in the local paper at Neuhaus, in Lower Austria:

Warning.—I hereby give notice that I will not be held responsible for debts contracted by my wife in my name. William Hunstock.

The next day the reply appeared in the same column:

Dear Husband—There is no fear of any one lending me money on the strength of your name; you cannot even borrow money yourself on such a weak guarantee. Marie Hunstock.—London Express.

Those unhappy persons who suffer from nervousness and dyspepsia should use Carter's Little Nerve Pills, which are made expressly for sleepless, nervous, dyspeptic sufferers. Price 25 cents.

Cabinet Struggle

Mr. Tarte Is Believed to Stand Alone in the Ottawa Ministry.

And Tomorrow Battle Royal Is Expected at Cabinet Meeting.

Report That Mr. Fielding Succeeds Sir Wilfrid Laurier as Premier.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 20.—Of two elements in the cabinet, the reactionaries, represented by Sir Richard Cartwright and Mr. Sifton, or the Progressives led by Mr. Tarte—which will win? This is a great question in political circles in Ottawa today. The answer is not far to seek. Mr. Tarte will be downed, and in two or three days he will, of his own choice, retire, not exactly from public life, but to the editorial chair of La Patrie, and with his testy pen, will preach the gospel of the National Policy which the Liberal-Conservative party has advocated in office for the past three decades. A count of noses in the cabinet shows that the free trade wing of the Liberal party still dominates there.

Last session Mr. Fielding promised that next year something would be done to repair the inconsistencies and incongrurities in the Liberal tariff, but the Cartwright-Sifton element is asserting itself and the decision of the cabinet will be such as to leave no other alternative open to Mr. Tarte than to withdraw.

The Minister of Public Works left for Toronto this morning, but it is understood he will be back on Wednesday for a cabinet meeting, and a battle royal.

About the only sympathizer with Mr. Tarte's views in the cabinet is Mr. Patterson. He has always been an ardent protectionist, especially as regards the duty upon biscuits, but Mr. Patterson is just back from the Maritime Provinces and in a published interview has declared, in effect that the country is satisfied with the tariff, which means therefore, that Mr. Tarte will stand alone among his colleagues, and will adopt the only course open to an honorable member. To go.

LAURIER MAY RESIGN.

The report is current this evening that there may be more cabinet changes than the retirement of Mr. Tarte. It is said that Sir Wilfrid Laurier's visit to the Governor-General today had reference to his retirement from the premiership in the very near future. Notwithstanding the assurance to the contrary, Sir Wilfrid's health is anything but good. His physicians have ordered absolute rest, and it need not be a matter of surprise to the country if, when parliament meets, Mr. Fielding is prime minister. It does not necessarily follow that Sir Wilfrid would retire absolutely from politics. He is to be given an easy department and go away from Ottawa for the repose to which he is entitled.

The first meeting of the cabinet was held today, Messrs. Tarte and Blair, and Sir Frederick Borden being the absentees. It was something in the nature of a love feast, Sir Wilfrid explaining to his colleagues what had occurred at the London conference. The tariff was laid over until Mr. Tarte could be present.

The staff of the Geological Survey met today and passed a resolution of sympathy with the family of the late Dr. Selwyn. An order was sent for a wreath as a token of sympathy.

Last session an act was passed respecting the coasting trade of Canada. It was withheld for royal assent, and this having been obtained, a proclamation has been issued bringing the act into force. In brief, it enacts that hereafter it shall not be possible for any foreign built ship by merely obtaining British register, to engage in coasting trade in Canada. They must in future take out a license and pay 25 per cent. ad valorem duty. A couple of years ago a United States built vessel obtained a provisional British register from the British consul in Chicago, and with this proceeded to do coasting business in Canada. The frequent practice is to have foreign built steamers registered in Newfoundland as British ships, thus enabling them to cut into freighting business between Canadian ports. The act which does away with this practice will not apply to vessels already in the trade, but it will prevent others being brought in, and will be the means of encouraging the building of steel vessels in Canada.

According to advices received by the Department of Agriculture, there were eight deaths from bubonic plague at San Francisco last month.

Mr. Jardine, trade commissioner in South Africa, again urges Canadian houses to get into the game effectively. He suggests that houses in Toronto, Halifax, Montreal and Victoria combine to send representatives.

MONT PELEE.

Report Received From French Scientific Expedition.

Paris, Oct. 20.—The Colonial office has received a cablegram from Martinique saying that the Lacroix scientific mission, which was sent out by the French government to make observations of the recent eruptions, and to establish a permanent observation station on Mont Pelee, has traversed the zone laid waste during the recent eruptions and found traces of new fissures. The commission did find, however, that the zone of solid rock near the crater was furrowed with fissures from which explosive blasts of sulphurous vapor were emitted, and that these blasts caused violent avalanches and cavings.

FREE LABOR CONGRESS.

An Association Opposed to Trades Unions.

Leeds, England, Oct. 20.—The tenth annual congress of the Free Labor Association opened here today. The delegates represented 400,000 workmen. President John Chandler made an attack on trades unionism. He claimed that the growth of industrial freedom greatly tended towards the diminution of strikes and declared that trades union excesses, in violation of personal freedom, were a disgrace to labor in this country. Nothing could more forcib