

have been the subject of conciliation by the Coal Control, but that Department does not interfere with the findings of the proper authority, viz. the Joint District Board.

So far we have treated the matter as though the Miners' Federation of Great Britain was the only Trade Union concerned. This, of course, is not so, and we have only chosen that union because it is the largest and the most developed so far as internal organization is concerned. There are, in fact, many other unions of which the most important are the Firemen Examiners and Deputies, the General Council of Mine Workers other than Miners, and the Colliery Enginemen and Surface Craftsmen Organization, while there is a tendency now apparent for the official classes, the Undermanagers and Managers to combine.

It would seem that no adequate reason exists why all questions should not be peaceably and amicably arranged by negotiation, and it is probable that were an accommodating and friendly spirit present many of the disputes which have arisen in the past would have been so settled. We are of the opinion that much of the bitterness which has characterized the frequent quarrels that have arisen have been due to excusable ignorance on the part of the men and to a failure to disclose the facts on the part of the owners. It is beyond question that a full disclosure of the financial position of colliery concerns to the representatives of the workers engaged in those concerns would do much to convince the men that the employers are