

Coal Mines Arbitration

The Board of Arbitrators Make Their Award This Morning.

The Special Rule to Be Decided on by the Supreme Court.

The award in the coal mines arbitration case was handed down this morning, and is summarized below. The case has been a famous one, and the sittings of the arbitrators have been prolonged over a considerable period of time. The award is in a sense tentative, the validity of the special rule promulgated by the Minister of Mines excluding from the coal mines of the provinces all persons who could not understand the rules as promulgated in English being referred to the Supreme Court. The Chinese in Union mine are pronounced dangerous with the exception of five, who proved their competency to the arbitrators, although the evidence in the same regard in regard to the Wellington mine was insufficient to warrant a similar pronouncement. The arbitrators further agree that while all Chinese and Japanese may not be dangerous in these workings, a considerable percentage are. In fact the general tenor of the award is against the Chinese and in favor of the action of the government.

The history of this arbitration is already beginning to vanish from the recollection of even those who follow such matters carefully and a resume of it may therefore be given. On August 8th the then Minister of Mines instructed Mr. Morgan, inspector of coal mines, to enforce the provisions of sub-section 2, section 69, of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, telling him that he had power under the act to exclude from the mines all persons who could not understand and read the special rules as printed in English. On the following day, August 9th, the special rule was gazetted prohibiting after that date the employment of any persons excepting those previously employed, that is before the promulgation of the rules, in coal mines who could not read and understand the special rules in English. On the 15th of August the mine inspector notified A. Brydon, manager of the Extension mine, that certain Chinese employed in that mine were a source of danger to its safety and on the 17th a similar notice was issued to Manager Little, of the Union mine, in respect to a larger number of Chinamen employed on that property. On the 18th of October the inspector notified Manager Little to remove all Chinese and Japanese from underground works in the Union mines. These are the four distinct matters which formed the subject of arbitration.

The board which was selected to arbitrate upon these matters was made up of the following: Wm. McAllan, Nanaimo, for the Minister of Mines; T. Crawford Wynne, of Nelson, for the Union Colliery Co., and for R. Dunsmuir & Sons; and Frank W. McCrady, manager of the Marble Bay mines at Van Anda, as umpire. The arbitrators failed to agree upon matters of the special rule and the umpire made his award in the form of a special case for the opinion of the Supreme Court, the following being the questions of law submitted:

(a) Whether the special rule was within the special rule making power of the Minister of Mines.
(b) Whether the class of evidence as to what took place in other mines than those in question in relation to the class of labor employed in them objected to on page 5 and subsequently in the case should have been admitted and considered.
(c) Whether the inspector had the power to give the notices in question putting workmen out of the mines in question, and particularly in regard to the general notice affecting all the Chinese and Japanese employed therein.

The umpire's award on the special rule submitted to the opinion of the court on the above questions were:
"According to the evidence before me I find that the above reference to special rule is not a reasonable one, but I think from the evidence it is necessary that all men working underground should be able to understand instructions given in the English language and that a rule should be prepared to that end."
Upon the second, third and fourth matters submitted to the arbitrators they found as follows:

"That with regard to the notice given to Manager Brydon of the Extension mine, there was not evidence produced that proved to us that the persons named in the notice referred to above constituted a source of danger to the Wellington Extension mines."
With respect to the notice given to Manager Little of the Union Mines the arbitrators award as follows:
"On this question we have Mr. Morgan's evidence that he considered the men in question incompetent, and with the exception of the Chinese who were called, and showed their competency, his evidence as to those particular persons is uncontradicted, and we therefore decide that with the exception of Mah Yuen, Mah Poo, Ah Gate, Quong Lee and Dan, whom we consider competent, these men are dangerous within the meaning of the above matters."

With respect to the notice of the 18th of October to Mr. Little that all Chinese and Japanese employed in the mine at Union were incompetent to such an extent that their presence was a source of danger to other persons employed in the mines, the arbitrators award as follows:
"While we cannot agree with the notice and say that all the Chinese and Japanese are dangerous, we are of the opinion that from the evidence submitted to us that a considerable percentage of them are dangerous."

They make the same award with respect to all the Chinese and Japanese employed in the Wellington Extension mine.
With respect to all these matters, the arbitrators submit the same question as

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Colonel Buchan Addresses the Troops—What is Expected on the March.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
Belmont, Sunday, Feb. 11th, 1900.

General Dorian Smith is to take command of our brigade. I have not yet learned who are to be in the cavalry brigade.
We are all rejoicing at the news of Sir Hector Macdonald's victory near Koodoosberg Drift. Last night the rumor in camp was that the cavalry had ridden through them in the open three weeks, and the Boer loss was very heavy. Late last night semi-official information reached a few of us in camp and gave complete satisfaction. "A" and "G" Companies return to Belmont tomorrow, and the next day the whole brigade moves in an easterly or north-easterly direction, probably towards Bloemfontein or Jacobsdal. The idea appears to be that we are to cut off the Boer retreat from Moller and Magerfontein. When these lines are in print you will possibly have received news of the marching of several British columns from different points into the Orange Free State. In two months we will be in the Orange River valley, and I firmly believe the war will be practically over.

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Well, suppose we may look for severe work from now on—hard tack and bully beef. We shall have to travel as light as possible, and our overcoats will be carried in the transport. All day yesterday and all last night transports passed here in an endless stream. Trains hurried up and down full of supplies, troops, guns, ammunition, etc., making the sleepy place very lively, and adding to the general excitement. It is extremely doubtful when my next letter will get through, unless a line of communication is carefully kept up, and even then mail may not be sent. One of the Q. M. I. wrote me from Witteputs on the 7th, and his letter has not yet reached me. He has been up here with his regiment for the last three days.

Monday, 12th.—"A" and "G" Companies left Belmont at 2 o'clock this morning, and arrived here about 7 p.m. We expect the whole regiment to entrain for Graspan at 4 p.m. this evening, and the whole brigade will probably move tomorrow.

SEYMOUR HASTINGS O'DELL.
THAT HACKING COUGH is a warning not to be lightly treated. Feny-Pectoral cures all bronchitis, catarrh of all recent coughs and colds. Take it in time. Manufactured by the proprietors of Perry Davis' Pain-Exiler.

THREE FIREMEN KILLED.
(Associated Press.)
New York, March 24.—Through the breaking down of the first floor in the factory building at 213 and 215 East 44th street, which was destroyed by fire early today, three firemen were killed and two injured.

COATED

Look at your tongue. Is it coated? Then you have a bad taste in your mouth every morning. Your appetite is poor, and food distresses you. You have frequent headaches and are often dizzy. Your stomach is weak and your bowels are constipated. There's a reliable cure:



Ayer's Pills

Don't take a cathartic dose and then stop. Better take a laxative dose each night, just enough to cause one good free movement of the day following. You feel better the very next day. Your appetite returns, your dyspepsia is cured, your headaches pass away, your tongue clears up, your liver acts well. All druggists have Ayer's Pills for 25 cents, and I consider them the best made. One pill does me more good than half a box of any other kind I have ever tried.

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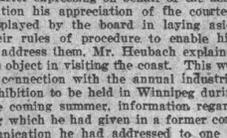
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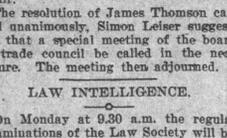
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Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me of its good effect upon their children.
Dr. G. C. Osgood, Lowell, Mass.

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Fighting Smallpox

Dr. Fagan Suspends Travel Between Republic and This Province.

Dr. Fagan, secretary of the provincial board of health, returned last night from the Interior, whither he went a short time ago to investigate a reported outbreak of smallpox at Grand Forks. He found upon investigation that two men who had been engaged in freighting from Republic to Grand Forks had been attacked by the disease in a virulent form. The local authorities had promptly isolated them, and had also segregated about twenty-five other men who had come in contact with the victims, or for other reasons were suspected of being exposed to contagion. These steps on the part of the health authorities at Grand Forks were approved by Dr. Fagan, who, on learning some details in regard to the carelessness observed in these matters south of the line, determined to pay a visit to Republic.

Vigilance of Health Authorities Has Kept Boundary Free of Disease.

His trip there proved an eye-opener. He found that the grossest carelessness existed in regard to the spread of the epidemic. One man he met on the street was already in the clutches of the malady, while another told him that he had occupied the same shack as another man who had been taken to the isolation hospital suffering from the disease, and yet was allowed to move about unimpeded. Dr. Fagan at once summoned the local officers to a conference, and stated that what he had seen in the camp led him to believe that he would be incurring a grave responsibility by permitting even the limited intercourse which had formerly existed between that point and southern British Columbia. He proposed, therefore, as a measure of protection to the province he represented, to cut off all intercourse between the two districts. The authorities, while recognizing the seriousness of the proposed step, frankly acquiesced in it, admitting that the position which he had taken was perfectly justified.

On his return to the Boundary the doctor double the guards, and issued instructions that the freight drivers from Republic should not henceforth be allowed into the country, that teams from Republic camp should change drivers at the international boundary, and that no blankets or other impediments should be transferred from one driver to the other which would transmit the germs of disease. These regulations are now being rigidly enforced, and travel between southern British Columbia camps and the infected districts is practically stopped.

Thanks to the prompt action taken by

A NEW MINISTER.

G. W. Beebe, a Farmer, of Agassiz, Becomes Provincial Secretary in the Martin Cabinet.

Premier Martin has again returned from the Mainland, and this time his mission has not been fruitless. He has secured a cabinet minister in the person of Geo. Washington Beebe, a well known farmer and rancher at Agassiz. Mr. Beebe will take the portfolio of provincial secretary. Mr. Yates going to that of chief commissioner of lands and works.

The new minister has been prominent in Farmers' Institute work for a number of years, and the Premier believes he will be a distinct accession to the Cabinet. He has been a resident of British Columbia for about thirteen years.

A special Gazette to-day contains the official announcement of Mr. Beebe's appointment, and the resignation of Mr. Yates as provincial secretary.

William Fernie, after whom the town in East Kootenay is named, has announced himself as a candidate for East Kootenay in the next provincial elections. His platform has not yet been given out.

QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

Ottawa, March 24.—Public notice is given that the ministerial order, dated March 15th, 1897, excepting coasting vessels from San Francisco from the quarantine regulations of Canada, issued by the minister of agriculture, has been temporarily withdrawn in consequence of the reported presence in San Francisco, of bubonic plague.

WE CLAIM THAT THE D. & L. Menthof Paster will cure lumbago, backache, neuralgia, or rheumatic pain, quicker than any other remedy. Made by Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

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