

and damages and such indirect loss and damages as may be incurred by him by reason of the resulted violation of contracts by him with others.

"I further conclude that it is an unlawful organization because of its procedure and practices in that (1) it seeks to create a monopoly of mine labour such as to enable it, as an organization, to control the coal-mining business of the country, and (2) has by express contract joined in a combination and a conspiracy with a body of rival operators, resident in other states, to control, restrain, and to a certain extent destroy the coal trade of the State of West Virginia. It has spent fourteen years of time and hundreds of thousands of dollars to accomplish this unlawful purpose. The rules of law relating to the responsibility of individual members concerned in such a combination are plain and well defined."

The coal operators who are joined with the U. M. W. A. in this injunction are the unionized operators of Western Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois, known as the "contracting" States. The leaders of the U. M. W. A. have undertaken, at the request of the coal operators of these four States, to unionize West Virginia, hence the strikes at Cabin and Paint Creek that have been distinguished by the anarchy which seems to be inseparable from the methods of the U. M. W. A.

From a strategical point of view, it was no doubt very good business on the part of the U. M. W. A. leaders and the Pennsylvania operators to attempt to absorb and control the mine workers of Nova Scotia. Had these gentlemen succeeded it is beyond doubt that last year, instead of the Nova Scotian coal mines producing their record output, and thereby netting to the Provincial treasury the largest sum for royalties yet collected, they would have become caught in the maelstrom of American labour politics, and would have been laid idle by the leaders of the U. M. W. A. in "sympathy" with the strikers in Illinois and other places in the States. From their actions in the past it is evident that the thoughtful miners of Nova Scotia do not intend to sacrifice themselves to the inordinate ambition of the labour oligarchy in the United States, particularly when it is seen that the effects of the U. M. W. A. strikes smooth the path of the sales agent of the United States coal operator.

## THE EIGHT HOUR ACT

The Ontario Legislature has this month passed an Act that specifically limits the time per day that any workman can spend underground. The text of the Act will be found in another column. It is brief, concise, and comprehensive. Despite the warm protests of mine managers it was most expeditiously passed through the House.

The Hon. Mr. Hearst, Minister of Mines, is the putative father of the Act. It is fitting that this should be so. It is not fitting, however, for any Minister to tamper with a principle in the manner that Mr. Hearst has. Clause 5 of the Act is specious, so specious as to rouse immediate criticism. By this clause the Lieutenant-Gov-

ernor in Council is empowered, upon the recommendation of the Minister, to suspend the operation of the Act in so far as any iron mine is concerned. Except for the general provision that "in the event of great emergency or grave economic disturbance," no other class of mine is granted immunity.

Not for a moment would we impugn the Hon. Mr. Hearst's motives. Seeing, however, that he represents an iron-mining constituency, we feel it but fair to remark that had he known the needs and disabilities of other branches of mining in Ontario as well as he knows those of iron-mining, he would never have consented to the present form of the Act.

We have pointed out several times that the miner, of all industrial employees, is probably the best paid, the most comfortably housed, and the most fairly treated. It is, therefore, not seemly that the industry of mining should be experimented upon. There are grave abuses in many trades that cry for remedy. Why not have dealt with these first?

## THE CANADIAN MINING AND EXPLORATION COMPANY

The first annual report of the Canadian Mining and Exploration Company, Limited, covers the last eight months of the year 1912. During that period no less than 428 projects were submitted to the company, and considered by its officers. None was accepted. "Only a few," says Mr. Ambrose Monell, the president of the company, "proved sufficiently attractive to warrant thorough examination and report. Some of these properties were promising mines and prospects, but the terms under which there are at present available give inadequate opportunities for profitable business."

Of the total, 285 projects were of Canadian origin, 110 came from the United States, 21 from Mexico, and the remainder from Central and South Americas, the Malay States, and South Africa.

Mr. Monell does not consider this discouraging. He alludes to the fact that very much valuable information has been gained, information that will be of inestimable value in the future.

Our readers will recall that the Canadian Mining and Exploration Company is an international organization with headquarters in New York and a central Canadian office in Toronto. The shareholders include many of the most prominent Canadian and United States financiers. The capitalization of the company is \$5,000,000, of which \$2,500,000 has been subscribed. This sum is so invested as to bring the company an annual income of about \$125,000. Thus ample provision is made for the employment of a large staff of engineers.

Although many interests are represented in the company, the prime object of its existence is to develop Canadian mines. It is, therefore, a trifle surprising that not one of the many mines and prospects considered has