

not discuss the matter with him at all, and that until the sittings of the Commission he knew nothing whatever, either of the telegram which had been sent by Baker to Moyer or of the reply. The only way in which he could account for the fact that Baker had not taken him into his confidence in regard to these messages was that Baker knew of his opposition and did not wish to encounter it. He stated, however, that as one of the chief executive officers of the Nanaimo union, he was entitled to the fullest confidence in a matter of this kind from the Canadian organizer, and that Baker's action in not extending this confidence was unjustifiable and wrong.

There appears on the other hand to have been a definite understanding between Baker and the delegates who were present at the joint executive meeting from Union. The telegram from Moyer and Haywood was shown by Baker to these men, and given by him to Barber, the president of the union organization, to take back with him to Union. The impression conveyed to these men by this telegram, and Baker's representations in regard to it, was that they might count on the support of the Western Federation of Miners in the event of their declaring a strike. So strong was this impression that when Barber and other officers of the union were questioned as to whether or not the constitution of the Western Federation of Miners had been violated in consequence of the strike having been declared at Union, without the previous approval of the executive at Denver, the telegram from Moyer and Haywood to Baker was produced by these officers as their authority for the statement that this approval had been secured in advance. None of the officials of the union, however, knew anything of the contents of the telegram sent by Baker to Denver, and to which the telegram they had in their possession was the reply. It was with some difficulty that this telegram was obtained by the Commissioners. It had to be secured under subpoena from the telegraph agent at Nanaimo, and when obtained was found to be in cipher.

Strikers at Union Misled.

Upon the telegram being deciphered it was felt by the Commissioners that its contents should be communicated to the men, in view of the fact that all of the witnesses at Union had testified that there was no relation between the strike there and the strike at Ladysmith, and that some had declared emphatically that they would in no way have countenanced a sympathetic strike. The officers of the union who had testified were first recalled, however, and questioned again as to whether or not they had had any knowledge of the telegram sent by Baker to which the telegram given Barber was the reply. To which they all answered that they had none. Asked as to whether they would have in any way been parties to a sympathetic strike with Ladysmith, they declared they would not. Asked further as to whether, in the event of there being evidence to show that Baker had been instrumental in seeking to bring about a sympathetic strike, they would feel that they had not been taken into his confidence, and that he had not dealt with them as his relation to them required that he should have done, they replied in the affirmative.

The telegram—'Ladysmith asks Cumberland out on sympathy. I approve. Have we your consent', sent by Baker to Moyer on the 21st of April was then read aloud, and so far as the Commission is able to ascertain, this was the first intimation that any of the men at Union had of the nature of its contents.

Misleading Testimony given before Commission.

Baker's own evidence before the Commission in regard to his connection with the strike at Union would indicate that he respected his oath as little as he did the trust that had been reposed in him by the workmen of the province on whose behalf and in whose interest he pretended to be acting. Questioned by the Commissioners at Ladysmith on May 7, as to his knowledge of affairs, Baker replied as follows:

Q. Can you tell us, Mr. Baker, what you know about this Cumberland (Union) strike.