

by those who profess to understand something about the matter to be a safe kind of a magazine, and not by any means an expensive one. It is satisfactory to know that much. I may say that it will strike every person present as being most desirable in their own interest that the laws should be followed out. A plan of the magazine should be submitted to the Provincial Secretary, and a license obtained, because in the event of an accident occurring, although it might not absolutely relieve the owner of the magazine from all responsibility, notwithstanding the fact that he has had the plan of his magazine approved of and obtained the Government's sanction, it would undoubtedly be a very strong point in his favor. I commend it strongly to the consideration of all gentlemen who have powder magazines, and who are interested in the subject.

MR. W. H. IRWIN—I understand that the new Mining Act does not specify the class of magazine that is to be used.

THE CHAIRMAN—The new Mining Act does not touch the magazines at all.

MR. L. A. KLEIN—What I am afraid of is this: If the license will be raised say to \$150 and expensive magazines be put up, this will induce the mine owners to put up one general magazine and keep a lot of material together, which, I think, would increase the danger.

MR. W. H. IRWIN—Every mine owner is as careful as possible. Take our own district—during the time we have worked there we have not had one single accident, except last year, when we had a blow-up from lightning. No magazine will prevent that, and now we keep our material at two or more different places to avoid danger. Now if a high license be placed on our magazines, all the miners will join together and probably keep a large quantity of dualin in the one magazine, which will be more dangerous than at present. He asked whether it would be contrary to the law for several mine owners, as Mr. Klein suggested, to join together and erect a large magazine for the purpose of keeping their stores therein? He thought the object of the Quebec Government was to derive revenue from this license, and that it might be a violation of the Act, inasmuch as half a dozen different companies would only pay one license of \$150 in lieu of several.