

March 4 by Estes to Clarence Smith, secretary of the American Labour Union, mentioned Union as one of the points on Vancouver Island at which the Western Federation was to refuse coal to be loaded on cars, steamships, boats or hulks, the object being to cut off the Canadian Pacific Railway from its supply of coal. Union, as well as Ladysmith, was, therefore, aimed at in the telegram sent by the president of the Western Federation at Denver to Shenton, the secretary of the Nanaimo union, when the former wired: 'Use your best efforts to prevent Canadian Pacific from getting coal at Vancouver. Assist strikers all you can,' to which the reply was: 'We will render all assistance possible.' The following circular, signed in prominent type, 'George Estes, president U.B.R.E.', was printed at Seattle, and distributed in different places after the sympathetic strike of the longshoremen, steamshipmen and teamsters had been declared at Vancouver:

NOTICE!
TO ALL UNION MEN.

The United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, International Longshoremen's Union No. 211, British Columbia Steamship Society and Teamsters Union of Vancouver, B.C.

Are involved in a strike with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The United Brotherhood has ordered out the members of that organization at Vancouver, Revelstoke, Calgary, Courtney, Rossland, Winnipeg and Fort William.

This strike was due to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company trying to destroy Unionism on its line.

The three above named organizations have struck in order to assist the United Brotherhood.

The Western Federation of Miners will be asked to stop the mining of coal on Vancouver Island in order to deprive the Canadian Pacific Railway of fuel, and they will strike within the next few days.

If you are a Union Man, or if you are friendly to Unionism, stay away from British Columbia, and ask your friends to do likewise, as this is a fight to a finish, and the Canadian Pacific Railway must give in or the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees with the assistance of the other organizations will carry on the battle indefinitely.

We ask the aid and co-operation of all Unions in helping us to make this struggle a success, and in the end the victory must be ours.

GEORGE ESTES,
President U.B.R.E.

Denny-Coryell Co. Printers, Seattle.

This circular was evidently prepared by authority of Estes as president of the U.B.R.E., with the full knowledge of what

might be expected from the Western Federation of Miners in view of the request by the American Labour Union to them for assistance to the Brotherhood, or at least as the result of some mutual understanding between the parties.

The Organizer of W. F. of M. remains on Vancouver Island.

After his arrival at Nanaimo for the purpose of organizing the men at Ladysmith, and after the organization of the latter place had been formed, Baker remained on the island, making Nanaimo his headquarters; this, as already mentioned, notwithstanding the fact that the strike in the camps at Fernie, Michel and Morissey continued to the last day of the month, and was causing some anxiety to the Denver officials, as evidenced by telegrams which passed between the executive at Denver, the Canadian organizer and other parties, which telegrams were produced before the Commission at its Nanaimo sittings.

Estes claims he is tying up Coal Mines at Union.

The day after the formation of the union at Ladysmith, Estes left Vancouver for Victoria, having wired to several Brotherhood officials at different points that the steamshipmen would strike the day after his arrival there. They did strike the same night (March 16), having agreed to do so at the meeting in Victoria, at which Estes was present. Estes then remained for a day or two on Vancouver Island. On the 17th one of the Vancouver papers published the following special from its correspondent at Victoria:—

Victoria, March 17.—(Special)—George Estes, president of the U.B.R.E. is here. To your correspondent he spoke as follows:

'I am here in response to a telegram from Portland to deal with the strike here. We now have the Canadian Pacific Railway practically tied up, all sources of its coal supply having been blocked with the exception of Union, and Frank in Alberta. We have the assurance of the miners at the latter point that they will go out as soon as asked to do so by the union.'

'I am going to tie up the Dunsmuir mines at Union.'