Commission At Extension

Labor Committee Inquires Into Conditions at Island Mining Camp.

Made Close Inspection of the Town, Buildings and Mine Equipment.

Took Evidence of Men on Question of Removing Residence to Ladysmith

Ladysmith, May 8.—(Special)—It was drizzling rain this morning when the labor commissioners boarded the special train which had been placed at their service by the E. & N. Ry. Co. to convey them to Extension. Chief Justice Hunter and the Rev. Dr. Elliott S. Rowe were accompanied by Mr. Mackenzie King, deputy minister of labor, and secretary of the commission, and his secretary, Mr. Giddens, Mr. E. V. Bodwell, K. C., and Mr. Luxton, counsel for the Wellington Colliery Co., Mr. Wilson, K. C., counsel for the miners, and some twenty other persons, including a few officials of the company, Mr. Baker of the Western Federation, and some union officers. The commissioners made a searching inspection of the deserted town and buildings, and especially examined the weighing arrangements and coal boxes with a level capacity of 16 cwt. The atmosphere was not cheering, and the face of nearly every resident witness examined bore the sallow hue of evident ill-health. After the inspection a session was held in the Knights of Pythias Hall, later used as a schoolroom.

The first witness to take the stand was Mr. Bramley, who was examined by the commissioners. He said he had lived there since 1884. He had about that date bought 200 acres from the E. & N. Ry. Co., for $1 an acre. He had sold about 16 lots for $100 each, except one corner one, for which he had received $150, and had received cash for all the lots. All but two of them, he thought, had been built upon. He had had no difficulty with the company about the title. He had, however, a difficulty with the company about a fence which they had erected around their railway yard and tracks. These occupied land which he had resold to them at $10 an acre by a verbal agreement with Mr. James Dunsmuir ten years ago, but the land had not yet been conveyed to the company, as it had not yet been paid for. Under this agreement he understood that Mr. Dunsmuir would build a road across this land and bridge the tracks. As it was, the fence erected a year ago cut his property and the town in two. Children had had to either climb over the fence or else go a mile round to get to school. They frequently preferred the short cut. The government school house was built about four years ago. Coal was first dug five years ago last November. There had been no understanding between him and the company about the townsite. The population was largest about a year and a half ago. He promised to get the commission a list of the houses still standing, with the names of their occupants, also of those standing empty, and those which had been pulled down. His own business was trading. For his town lots he used to charge a ground rent of $1 a month before the strike, but had reduced it since to 50 cents.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bodwell, he said that Mr. Dunsmuir had offered him $5,000 for his land, but he would not take it. He had made a counter-offer to sell 100 acres at $50 a lot. Mr. Dunsmuir could have made 300 per cent. on this proposition, but he refused it. His offer involved making Extension the resident townsite, but Mr. Dunsmuir would not accept it, as he said he intended to make the town at Ladysmith. That was four years ago. In letting out lots he always told men that if they had to remove to Ladysmith, they could take their houses away with them.

Thomas Isherwod was called by Mr. Wilson. He lived at Extension. Had never lived at Ladysmith. In February last Mr. Wilson, a mine boss, told him he would have to live at Ladysmith or quit. That was the first day he went to work after being sick. He had been doing nothing since, and could not afford to go to Ladysmith, as he was a married man with four children. He had bought the place in which he was living from a man named Dickinson, but had paid only $28 out of $40 for it. Under Mr. Bodwell's cross-examination, he said Dickinson lived in Nanaimo. His house was a small one of straight up wood, and could be taken down in one day and put up in three days. He knew that there was a standing order by the company to move houses free. He had never asked any assistance from the company. He considered that he could live as he liked. He had been sick six or seven months, and was just getting well.

John Mocchar, examined by Mr. Wilson, said he lived in Extension and worked in the mine. Last September the pit boss, Mr. Sharp, came along and said to him: "Ladysmith or nothing!" That meant that he must move or quit. He quit. He had built a house at No. 1 and another at the Tunnel, and was unwilling to build again. He was a married man with two children, one of whom died a few days ago. At the time of building his home nobody told him he would have to move.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bodwell, he said he did not think there was much sickness in Extension, though the last witness had been sick and his own child had just died. He had heard some talk of a move, he would not say while his house was building, but afterwards. In any case he would not have paid any attention to it. He took no steps to inquire. He knew the company would transport his house for him as well as for others.

Jacob Myllymaki, a Finlander, said he worked at Tunnel over two years. Had never lived at Ladysmith. Officials of the company never said anything to him about moving to Ladysmith. He quit work because he got a bad place in the mine—all rock. He had heard general talk of the move.

Joseph von Tanner, an Italian, was working in the mine until the strike. Asked by Mr. Bryden if he would be willing to go down to Ladysmith, he said he would rather not, as he would have to leave his wife and two children. He would not go unless forced. Nothing more was said then, and he worked for a couple of months longer until he was told to go to Ladysmith by Mine Boss Sharp. Having no alternative, he went to live at Ladysmith, leaving his family behind. The morning train from Ladysmith reached Extension about 6:30 a.m. He worked till 3 p.m., and a train leaving for Ladysmith at 3:30 p.m., allowed him only half an hour to see his family. There was a later train about 6 p.m. to leave by. He did take that a couple of times. That train left every day.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bodwell, he said he could not find a house to rent at Ladysmith. He asked his friends, but did not ask Mr. Bryden, though that gentleman was the man who had told him to go to Ladysmith. He preferred to live at Ladysmith with his wife and family at Extension. Mr. Wilson disputed this last admission, maintaining that witness did not mean it, and witness denied it. If witness could rent a house at Ladysmith he could not say whether he would object to go. He paid no rent at Extension.

Lewis Astori was the last witness called. Examined by Mr. Wilson, he said he lived in Extension, was married and had six children. First of all, in June last, when he finished his place in the mine, he went to Mr. Sharp, who had no other place for him then, but said he would give him one, and that it made no difference whether he were a Ladysmith or Extension man. Two or three days later Mr. Sharp said to him that he would put no more Extension men in the mine; all had to go to Ladysmith. Witness asked for his time and quit, and after a few months' work at Union, returned, and saw Mr. Bryden, who told him it was no use asking for a job so long as he lived at Extension. Witness said he had a family and could not move. Mr. Bryden said he could leave his family behind. He went down to investigate and saw Mr. Bryden again, who then told him to see the pit boss and get work. He came back to Extension in September and got work, but in a few weeks Mr. Sharp found out that he was living in Extension and told him he must go down to Ladysmith. He went down accordingly and "batched" there. He objected to going. He sometimes slept at Extension, but had to be careful not to be seen. Cross-examined by Mr. Bodwell, he said his house was about two minutes' walk from the tunnel, built on a lot he had rented from Mr. Bramley, and cost about $250. He did not know the cost of a lot in Ladysmith. Did not want to live there on any terms.

The session was now adjourned until 2:30 at Ladysmith, but as there were no witnesses whose evidence could be completed in the time at disposal, the afternoon session was abandoned, and the commission adjourned until Monday, when it will sit in the Court House at Victoria at 10:30 a.m.

Gould's Hall was crowded for the fourth day's session of the Labor Commission on the 7th instant. Mr. Wilson, K. C., counsel for the miners, put Mr. William Joseph into the stand. Witness stated that he was a miner employed at Extension, and had sons working in the mine. He had built a miners' boarding house some three years ago, at a cost of about $1,200, and some five months ago was compelled to leave. His partner had refused to leave; said Mr. Dunsmuir could not drive him. The Extension house was empty six months. He had not ever seen an officer of the company to ask if he could go back. He was dissatisfied with the train arrangements between Extension and Ladysmith. There were not many people in Extension now; he guessed over 50. Some had gone back since cessation of work.

Examined by Mr. Bodwell, K. C., counsel for the Wellington Colliery Co., he stated that he had bought the land on which his house was built from Mr. Bramley. He did not enquire the intentions of the company before purchase. There were lots of other people living there at the time. He had not been warned beforehand. Asked whether people had not been generally told of the company's intentions, witness admitted that he had built only the skeleton of his house until the return of a deputation composed of G. Johnson, J. Spence and W. McClusky, from waiting on Mr. Dunsmuir. They reported that a house could be built anywhere provided suitable to officials. Officials did not tell him that he had to live at Ladysmith. He didn't know whether officials gave out that men had to live at Ladysmith. "Will you say it was not so?" asked Mr. Bodwell.

Witness, after some hesitation, replied "No." He had heard that Mr. Bryden had told a great many men, but not before his own house was built. Mr. Dunsmuir sold some of the lots, and Mr. Bramley others. There were two or three thousand people in Extension before the order was made to leave. The general evacuation took place about six months ago.

The Chief Justice asked Mr. Bodwell if he could fix the time of the evacuation order?

Mr. Bodwell—Yes; I'll bring witnesses.

The Chief Justice—There is a heavy onus on you to show cause for this action.

Mr. Bodwell—The company gave out due notice.

In reply to Rev. Dr. Rowe, witness said that his lot cost $100, which might be paid at the rate of $1 a month over 10 years.

George Johnson was the next witness. He had been a miner at Extension five years. After the fire, his place was taken away from him and given to a Ladysmith man. That was twelve months ago last March. It was a matter of indifference to him. He worked again for the company. Last August John Johns, boss of No. 3 Extension mine, said that all the men had to go down to Ladysmith. He had a house, which he pulled down and rebuilt himself, but the company gave transportation of it free. He had paid out altogether on the lot $5. He was one of the committee who saw Mr. Dunsmuir two years ago, and was told that they could live where they liked, so long as the work was done. He would have stayed at Extension if not forced out. He estimated his loss by this act of the company at about $300. He thought it cheaper to live at Extension than at Ladysmith. He bought his lot from Mr. Bramley.

Examined by Mr. Bodwell, witness stated that he had not paid, nor had he been asked for the remainder of payments for his lot at Extension. The order to leave was not given until the mine was a shipper. He supposed that the reason why the houses were to be built at Ladysmith and not at Extension was that for the good of the town of Ladysmith the coal had to be brought there. It might otherwise have gone to Departure Bay. Asked if he had ever heard anything about the sanitary conditions at Extension, he replied that he himself had always enjoyed good health. He did not say whether he had ever heard the relative merits of the two places discussed from that point of view.

When last working in the mine he was making about $3.50 a day.

Samuel Mottishaw, Sr., was next called. He stated that he was a miner, and lived at Ladysmith; had been working off and on for the company, the last time for four months. He had attended and was secretary of the meeting held on the 4th March, as also of those on the 12th and 14th of that month. When the first meeting was called, the first question put to the meeting by the chairman was for an increase in wages of 10 to 15 per cent. The majority at the meeting, however, did not want this pressed until they were further organized. The scheme for better organization was sprung suddenly on the meeting, but met with general approval, and a resolution was, on a show of hands, carried almost unanimously for federation. There were between 300 and 400 men present. The miners generally were aware of the advantages of Federation with the Western Federation of Miners. Witness learnt this through the press. The miners wanted something with backbone. As to the wages paid by the company, the current rate last day was about $3, or $2.60 by contract.

Mr. Wilson, K. C., was proceeding to ask witness if there was any check in use for ascertaining amount of coal raised; but Mr. Bodwell objected, and the commissioners ruled that with the memorandum of grievances before them they could not go outside it, and due notice must be given if this point was to be brought up. Mr. Wilson said he would give notice, and would not press the point then.

Examined by Mr. Bodwell, witness said that the current rate for the same kind of work in the New Vancouver Coal Co. was $3; at Fernie the conditions were not quite the same; in Washington it was $2. He was the person who posted up the notice of the meeting. He did so by general wish of fellow workmen. That was two weeks before. He could not give names of the workmen. He had not spoken to them before they spoke to him. There was a general feeling that they ought to organize to defend themselves. He would rather not say who the man was who spoke to him on the subject in Nanaimo. He had been an official in the old union, but not in the new. He could not say whether their conversation was confidential and confided to very few. The reason why some men were making less than $3 a day was that they were digging dirt and getting nothing for it, also inefficiency in the men themselves. The greatest inequalities in wages existed at Extension, owing to the formation of the mine. In some places there were four feet of dirt. His last shift loaded four boxes of dirt and three of coal, and did not get a cent for the dirt, but witness would not lay any charges on this score. Witness was surprised to be told that his son (from the company's books) had been making over $5 a day and his partner over $4. After considerable discussion, Mr. Bodwell elicited from witness that the good man makes the wages. Under further examination by Mr. Wilson, he said he posted the notice of meeting unsigned, for fear of discharge from the officials. They considered organization their sole weapon of defence.

In reply to the Chief Justice and Rev. Dr. Rowe, witness said it was for the miners to judge whether it was necessary for them to join the Western Federation. A coalition of all the miners in British Columbia might be sufficient, but Vancouver Island was isolated, and all depended on the amount of capital opposed. The local union in Nanaimo lacked backing. A tendency against strikes was lack of funds. If the miners joined the Western Federation, alien labor need not be feared, but scabs would be encouraged by action of a mere local union. The miners of Washington had not yet joined the Western Federation. It was only ten years old. Some discussion about the weighing of the coal, not being referred to on the memorandum before the commission, could not receive attention without due notice being given.

Joseph Jeffries, the next witness, stated that he was a member of the local union, and one of the deputation which waited on Mr. Dunsmuir in Victoria about April 18. It consisted of himself, S. Mottishaw Jr., A. Robertson and P. Malone, appointed by the executive board of the new union. They saw Mr. Dunsmuir and asked him to re-open the mines and reinstate the discharged men. He asked, "Did we belong to the Western Federation?" and on being replied to in the affirmative, said, "Then I can't talk business with you." Before he could talk business with them they would have to call an open meeting, purge themselves from the Western Federation, and appoint a committee. He said that he would not employ any member of the Western Federation. Asked, "Suppose we broke away and formed a local union, would that meet requirements" he said he would not have anything to do with any union at all. Seeing that was the case, we retired. Mr. Dunsmuir, Mr. Hunter and Mr. Frank Little were present.

Examined by Mr. Bodwell, witness said he had been working for the company about ten years. On two occasions, he remembered, committees had been formed from the men to interview Mr. Dunsmuir. Witness had formed an opinion that Mr. Dunsmuir would not have anything to do with any union, but had no opinion that he would not listen to grievances.

In reply to Mr. Wilson, witness said that there had for a long while been an effective organization amongst themselves, and they had sent petitions to Mr. Dunsmuir, who used to deal with them. That was within the last three years. The company paid the union fees out of the wages. There were no medical fees. He could not say how it broke up.

S. K. Mottishaw Jr., on being called to the witness box said he was son of Samuel Mottishaw. He was on the deputations which waited on Mr. Dunsmuir in April, and corroborated Joseph Jeffries' statement with regard to Mr. Dunsmuir's attitude. Mr. Dunsmuir said he would not allow his men to have a union, but they might have a standing committee to interview him. Witness was discharged on March 10 by J. Johns, foreman of No. 3, who gave him no reason, but requested him to take out his tools.

Asked by Mr. Luxton, assistant counsel to Mr. Bodwell, if there were any grievances that he had ever been unable to bring before Mr. Dunsmuir, witness replied "No." He was vice-president of the union at Extension three years ago, but the men did not attend the meetings regularly, and had not confidence in one another, and the union broke up some eighteen months or two years ago, before the offices were placed at Ladysmith. Disruption was not through any action of the company.

Joe Tassin, who spoke in French, which had to be interpreted, was the first witness called at the afternoon sitting. He worked as miner at No. 1. Was told by Mr. Haggert that he must build a house. He did not know whether there were any boarding houses up there then. When the work at No. 1 was done, he had to move his house three miles to the tunnel, and then again down to be rebuilt at Ladysmith. It took him about two months to pull down and build up his house. Preferred to live at Extension, being closer to his work.

Tom Dogherty next deposed that he was a miner, working at Extension. He had been informed by Foreman Johns that he must move down to Ladysmith or lose his place. That was in July or August, 1902. He had been boarding with the widow of the late W. J. Bailey, who was killed in the mine. She had been obliged to move also, and had appealed to Mr. Dunsmuir, who, he believed, referred her to Mr. Little. He did not think she got any satisfaction, but they would have to ask herself. Practically there was no difference in the price of board between Ladysmith and Extension.

Mr. Baker, organizer of the Western Federation, was now recalled by Mr. Wilson, and asked as to the disposal of the funds of the organization. He explained that there was one general fund for maintenance, local purposes, cases of distress, and general business. His own expenses were paid out of it. Large distributions had not been made in British Columbia. A considerable sum went to the late troubles at Rossland, and some $3,000 was appropriated for the Fernie trouble. One thousand dollars had also been recommended by the executive for relief purposes at Fernie. He expected to go there himself and investigate. The aim and object of the Federation was to create and maintain good feeling between the workers in the union and their employers. This only is possible by organization. An organized committee could quietly look into many matters, but take action only on justification. In reply to Mr. Bodwell, he said that the reason an ordinary standing committee could not be so effective, was the fear of discharge. The Federation were at present negotiating with the United Mine Workers for transfer cards, giving interchangeable membership. If a Canadian Association were started, the same affiliation could no doubt be arranged. A man excluded from a union at one part could not get in at another. The organization at Frank was one of the most perfect in British Columbia. A non-union man would not be allowed to work in such a camp. It would be made unpleasant for him, and if leniency could not convince him, every possible means would be used. Every case of trouble he knew of came from union men being displaced by non-union men. Interrogated by the commissioners as to the power of the central executive over local unions, he said it had no power to order a union out on strike against the wishes of its members. Local unions initiated strikes. The Federation approved of arbitration if it were fairly represented, and approved general principle of legal compulsion to the end. The third and independent arbitrator should be chosen by mutual agreement between the other two. Personally he could not say that he was in favor of compulsory arbitration unless this were so. As to a choice by lot from the Supreme Court judges, it would depend. On the whole, human nature was pretty much the same, even after the almighty dollar. An effective labor law might effect considerable relief, but a perfected organization was the only panacea. New Zealand methods resulted in good generally, but there the government consisted of the people. It was not so here. "Whose fault is that?" ask Rev. Dr. Rowe. "The people's own," Mr. Baker admitted. Pressed to make some suggestion for final ending of labor disputes, he could not do so. If the state interfered its mandate should not be against striking, but to hold up a strike or lock up for a certain time, while it was being considered by a conciliation board. The state should intervene, if at all before the parties are irreconcilable. But it seemed to the Chief Justice that the state must eventually interfere at the worst. Witness said he had pondered the matter deeply, but without satisfactory result. Witness stated that he had a wire telling that Cumberland workers are out on strike. The public knew the cause as well as he did. The union officers had been practically all discharged.

The session was here adjourned for the commissioners to hold a private conference with the union executive. To-morrow morning a special train will be placed by the company at the service of the commissioners to enable them to take evidence at Extension.

The following is the memorandum of grievances filed with the clerk of the Labor Commission, now in session at Ladysmith, on Wednesday, May 6, with the statement in reply by the Wellington Colliery Company:

The proceedings were opened on Wednesday morning by counsel filing the following statements with the clerk, and serving them to their opponents:

FROM THE MINERS.

Memorandum of grounds primarily responsible for the present trouble at Ladysmith:

(1) The mine-owner's refusal to employ men affiliated with the Western Federation of Miners.

(2) The mine-owner's refusal to employ men connected with any union.

(3) General hostility to any form of labor organization.

(4) The mine-owner insisting upon all his workmen residing at Ladysmith as a condition of employment.

STATEMENT OF THE WELLINGTON COLLIERY CO., LIMITED.

As a preliminary statement, and reserving to themselves the right to amend or add to it from time to time, the company desire to lay the following matters before the commissioners:

(1) The present difficulty has not arisen from a dispute between the company and its employees respecting the amount of wages paid to, or the quantity or kind of work required from its employees. All questions of that nature have heretofore been amicably adjusted between the company and its employees, without the intervention of any outside authority.

The employees are now insisting on their right to affiliate with a foreign union, commonly known as the Western Federation. They have also demanded that the company should recognize and treat from time to time with the said union.

The company, without pronouncing any opinion on the right of the men to associate themselves with the Western Federation, have declined to recognize that body in the management of the company's property here.

The reasons which have induced the company to take this stand are, among others, the following:

(1) The society is a foreign association. Its headquarters are situate and its executive meet in places outside the territorial limits of Canada.

(2) The business of the Federation is so conducted that the men who come under its control may therefore be ordered on strike, although no grievance arises in the course of their own employment. They may be willing to work, yet they may be compelled to leave their employment in order to further the interests of the organization in some particular matter which is being agitated in a foreign country, and with which the owners of mines in Canada have no control whatever.

(3) If the company recognize the Federation they cannot consistently object if a strike is ordered according to the constitution, yet, on the reasons above stated, the company would, in such a case, place its undertakings in jeopardy in respect of matters with which it has no concern, and over which it can exercise no control.

(4) An organization such as the Western Federation, if recognized here, may be used to close the mines in this country, not for the benefit of the men employed, but in order to increase the business or raise the price of coal produced by operators in the United States.

(5) It is difficult to avoid differences leading to strikes in any trade or undertaking. It is admitted that strikes are disastrous from a commercial point of view, and therefore on the broad ground of the general welfare and prosperity of the country, the company consider it unpatriotic to accentuate the evil caused by labor disputes, by recognizing the right of a foreign authority to assume the position of a dictator in the industrial affairs of British Columbia.

Dated at Ladysmith the 6th day of May, A. D. 1903.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

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Very small and as easy to take as sugar.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. FOR HEADACHE. FOR DIZZINESS. FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR TORPID LIVER. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR SALLOW SKIN. FOR THE COMPLEXION

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CURE SICK HEADACHE.

Antiseptic. Refreshing.

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Contains 10% Carbolic Acid, and thus acts as an excellent preventive of skin irritation and infectious diseases, while it also has a healthy and beneficial effect on the skin and complexion.

F. C. CALVERT & Co., MANCHESTER, ENG.

School Children Visit Factories

At Many Places They See Raw Material Turned Into Finished Product.

North Ward Pupils Witness Casting of Stoves at Albion Stove Works.

(From Saturday's Daily Colonist.)

The visits of the city school children to the factories and manufacturing establishments of the city, under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, was commenced yesterday, when a large number of boys and girls followed the manufacture of stoves, ice, biscuits, furniture, soap, bedsteads, etc., under the guidance of the teachers, members of the Chamber of Commerce and the management of the concerns visited. The North Ward school visited the Albion Iron Works and B. C. Cold Storage; the High school, Brackman-Ker's, and M. R. Smith's factories; Girls' Central, Weilers' factory and B. C. Soap Works; Boys' Central, B. C. Metallic Bed Factory and Excelsior Biscuit Factory; and South Park, Turner-Beeton's, J. Piercy & Co.'s factories, and the Victoria Gas Works.

The children of North Ward school saw an interesting sight when they followed the manufacture of the stove or range as made by Victoria workmen at the Albion stove works, of which T. E. Wood is manager and E. E. Dickenson, foreman. Class after class were instructed in the interesting study, following the work from the time the pig iron is built up in the cupola on the coke beds, until after the molten iron, glowing bright red, is fed into the waiting moulds, and smoothed, burnished, plated, etc., until all the parts are ready to be fitted together, and the stove is ready for the housewife.

The pupils—the girls eagerly questioning and with their notebooks in their hands, while the boys were attentive, but less eager for knowledge—were first taken to the stacks of Scotch pig iron brought around the Horn in the windjammer from Scotland. Then they were shown the two furnaces, one filled with its quota of coke and pig and scrap. A bed of coke, then 1,500 pounds of pig and scrap iron, then more coke, and more iron, with limestone used as a flux to refine the iron—the furnaces were well filled. Four Tuyerre drafts met where the fire blazed when the blast was applied, and slowly the iron ran molten in the cupola ready for the ladles of the moulders, whose flasks were made ready for the casting. Three times a week the castings are made.

Yesterday the pupils arrived opportunely to see the casting. Spread over the sandy floor were the rows of casts, or flasks, as the moulder technically puts it. There were stove centres, stove lids, grates, fancy castings and ornaments, and the more intricate little cannery stove—an industry almost peculiar to the Albion stove works. The moulders had filled their flasks with the hard-packing Albany red sand—the best the market offers for moulding purposes, and the patterns were buried in the sand, which was blackened with usage. This sand is costly, for although it costs about $5 a ton at Albany, it costs about $17 a ton to get it to Victoria. It is used in the finer castings, although for rougher work the local sand is often used.

When the patterns have been lifted—and there is much of the moulder's art in lifting these patterns—the flasks are clamped together and, as they lie in their rows with the patterns thrown aside, all is ready for the flow of iron. Then the furnace man shouts, and the hurrying workmen stand beside the great cupola with their waiting ladles, and as he pulls the plug of sand aside, the molten stream, aglow with its bright red heat, runs into the ladles and the men hurry along the rows of waiting flasks, pouring the red-hot moulten stream from their ladles into the "gates"—as the moulders call the little hole they leave at the top of their clamped flasks to receive the molten metal.

The foundry is by this time, smoking, steaming with heat, and the gleam of the molten metal shines everywhere, as the workmen hurry to and fro, now and then turning out the gathered dross from the surface of their liquid metal. Here in there is a "four-filler," and the foreman ladles a little out the foreman's cry, and the stream runs into the gates together. There, some accumulated gas in the air in the iron explodes with a little explosion, and the sparks fly. There, a workman has his overalls smouldering as he pours—having stood close to the poured-out dross, which is red-hot, in the sand, waiting until the next day, when the scrap is picked up again and thrown into the scrap heap.

At last—after the strings of workmen with steaming, red-hot ladles of molten metal, have filled all the rows of waiting flasks, and the steam is dying away, the smoke is drifting off, the glow going, as the grey-black of the cooling metal replaces the glow of the heated iron. Then the furnace man at the cupola digs a hole in the sand before the big spout—the gate of the cupola—and runs off the molten metal. Then the supports of the grates are knocked aside and, with a burst of fire and sparks, like the finale of a pyrotechnical display, the fire, coke and metal falls to the ball. The fire has been pulled, and after the steam from the water thrown on the furnace has vanished, the work of picking up the completed casts begins.

One after another the wooden boxes packed with sodden clay are knocked aside—the drag and the cope, as the builder calls the top and old-timer which has been made for 24 years at the shops—the stove made for the Indian and the farmer, to the new Coronation stove, the patterns for which cost over $1,500 before the manufacture of the stove could be commenced. The flat stove with its big caldrons is sold in bunches to the festive Indian when he returns from sealing or hop-picking and dozens are potlatched when the ceremonies are on in an Indian camp.

The plating works was also an interesting sight for the school children. Here the several large tanks, filled with the liquid baths, through which the dynamos forced a continual electric current. Bars of copper lay across the tanks and from these hung the wires. Some held the nickle anode, the conglomeration of massed nickle accumulated on the wire, while others held the nickle slabs. Still others held the iron or other metal being plated, and the current carried the nickle through the liquid to these objects gradually coating them with nickle. So it was with the copper-plating baths. The current carried the copper from the solid slabs to the object being coated, and in the smaller silver-plating bath the wires held slabs of pure silver—999 fine—from which the current carried the coating to the spoons or whatever else the wires held. So with the bronze.

Fenders were coated, range doors, stove ornaments, many varied and assorted articles, were dressed with the nickle, copper, or bronze coverings. There were brass fenders, and fenders with the brass covered with copper or bronze coatings.

Many were the objects of finished manufactures which the children interested themselves in, before after a couple of hours or more time spent with their note books in hand, and their mouths agape, they passed out of the bottom of his cast—are lifted and the packed clay falls apart. From the heap of black clay the moulder picks up the finished cast—stove lid, door, or circular cannery stove—almost finished in the one circular piece, and a difficult part of the moulder's work. The apprentices—some working by the piece—shake the clay aside with trepidation, for one cast has been incomplete, for the iron has not covered the hollow space left when the pattern was removed—and the work has been lost. There is a stove lid—not completed, and fifteen cents he thought to earn has not been earned. The moulders are a well-paid lot, though, for not only is it an interesting trade, requiring ability and deftness, but it is a trade in which good returns are made. The moulders at the Albion Stove Works are all Victoria men and boys.

So much for the castings. They are gathered up from the grimy floor and the emery wheels, the lathes and burnishers trim off the rugged edges, and they are put in their places, ready for the stove-builder when he commences to put the stove together. All the castings are at his hand, and it is astonishing with what rapidity the sections are bolted together, and the stove is ready for the showroom—the finished product of the local workmen, able to compete with any imported stove, for not only is it a complete and thorough work, finished as elaborately as any stove on the market, but it is sold to better advantage than the imported stove. For instance if a piece of the local stove is broken it can be replaced for ten cents a pound, whereas in the case of an imported stove 14 cents per pound is asked as well as the freight or express charges.

From the cannery stove the children were shown the long lines of stoves in all stages of construction, some being completed, others ready for the market. There were stoves of all sorts from the doors, each with a bag of candy.

Another place visited yesterday by the school children of North Ward was the B. C. Storage Works, where the manufacture of ice and the cold storage chambers were explained to them. They arrived just one day too soon, though, to witness the manufacture of ice cream, which is being established today by the firm for the supply of drug stores and confectionery stores of the city. Had they been delayed they would have been able to taste the new production of the B. C. Cold Storage.

Here cold replaced the heat of stove casting shops. The children were shown the big ammonia tanks and cisterns from which the ammonia is drawn into the compressors, and by the steam compressors, forced into a gaseous vapor, changing to a liquid as it freezes, and there forced into the brine tanks and through the ice-coated brine-pipes which run through the brine tanks. The ammonia when forced through the pipe is returned to the cisterns for use again, a small percentage being lost in the work. The brine pipes running through the tanks, which are cut up like a great checker-board with the rows of deep cans, each three feet long, and these when filled with water, freeze as the brine passes by their sides. A hand derrick lifts the ice blocks and their cans from the tank, and the can is thawed free. Thus the artificial ice is made.

The brine is also pumped through the thirty-two large cold storage rooms of the establishment in which the frozen meats, eggs, butter, poultry, etc., are kept at a temperature close to zero, while the straw hats are worn outside and the thermometer registers eighty in the shade. The children were shown the chilly cold-storage rooms, the ice cream manufacturing plant, the ice-makers and in the intricacies of the cold storage works.

Coughs, Colds and Asthma

As Well as Croup, Bronchitis and Whooping Cough Are Quickly Cured by

DR. CHASE'S SYRUP OF LINSEED AND TURPENTINE.

The virtue of this great prescription of Dr. Chase is so well known in Canadian homes that it seems useless to do more than remind you that it has a larger sale and is curing more people than ever before.

Mrs. J. W. Lloyd, Albion street, Belleville, Ont., states:

"In the beginning of last winter I took a very severe cold, accompanied with a bad cough, and was almost laid up for a time. I tried several remedied, but with indifferent results. On the advice of a friend I got a bottle of Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine, and found that it relieved the cough at once. By the time I had taken the one bottle my cold was gone, and I can truthfully recommend it as a splendid remedy for coughs and colds."

Mrs. A. A. Vanbuskirk, Robinson street, Moncton, N. B., and whose husband is carpenter on the I. C. R., states: "For years I have used Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine for my children whenever they take cold. I used it first with one of my children suffering with a severe form of asthma. It seemed as though the least exposure to cold or dampness would bring on an attack of this disease. I began using this medicine, and must say that I found it most excellent. We have never tried anything in the way of a cough medicine that worked so satisfactorily. It seemed to go right to the diseased parts and brought speedy relief."

Do not be satisfied with imitations or substitutes. The portrait and signature of Dr. A. W. Chase is on every bottle of the genuine. 25 cents a bottle, family size (three times as much), 60 cents, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

Fifty Years the Standard

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

Awarded Highest Honors World's Fair. Highest Tests U. S. Gov't Chemists

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.

ESCAPE FROM REFORMATORY.

Six Youthful Offenders Make Break for Liberty and Two Re-captured.

The presentment of the grand jury reflecting on the condition of affairs at the provincial reformatory on Topaz avenue must have put the youthful offenders resident there in a restless mood, for about less than six of the boys escaped on Thursday afternoon. The boys who succeeded in breaking from confinement were William Atkinson, Roy Cuness and Peter Hansen, under two two years' sentence for breaking into Pendray's paint works; James Bates, sentenced to two years for breaking into a grocery store and saloon on the corner of North Park and Quadra streets, and getting away with a quantity of cigars and cigarettes; Harold Emery and Jas. Hargraves, who were sent here from Vancouver. The boys had been playing in the reformatory yard at 1:30 on Thursday, and were apparently watching for an opportunity to escape. When the warden's attention had been called elsewhere, they placed a form against the high board fence and were soon over. Their disappearance was immediately noticed and the police were informed without delay. Emery and Hansen managed to catch the evening boat for Vancouver, and were arrested on their arrival there and returned by last evening's boat to "durance vile." The other four boys are still at large, with the police employing every clue to locate and apprehend them.

TENDENCY OF THE TIMES.

The tendency of medical science is toward preventive measures. The best thought of the world is being given to the subject. It is easier and better to prevent than to cure. It has been fully demonstrated that pneumonia, one of the most dangerous diseases that medical men have to contend with, can be prevented by the use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Pneumonia always results from a cold or from an attack of influenza (grip), and it has been observed that this remedy counteracts any tendency of these diseases toward pneumonia. This has been fully proven in many thousands of cases in which this remedy has been used during the great prevalence of colds and grip in recent years, and can be relied upon with implicit confidence. Pneumonia often results from a slight cold, when no danger is apprehended until it is suddenly discovered that there is fever and difficulty in breathing and pains in the chest, then it is announced that the patient has pneumonia. Be on the safe side and take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as soon as the cold is contracted. It always cures.

"Campbell's Clothing," semi-ready, the best ready-to-wear clothing made in Canada. B. Williams & Co., agents. *

ADAMSON FLOATED.

Big Tramp Towed to Quartermaster by Three Tugs.

The steamer Robert Adamson has been floated and towed to Quartermaster Harbor by three of the Puget Sound tugs. It is not known yet whether she will come to Esquimalt for repairs. The tug Pioneer convoyed the Adamson, holding herself in readiness to render any service necessary. She has been standing by since Sunday afternoon.

Having removed about 800,000 feet of lumber from compartments 1 and 2, in the hull, the bulkhead between them was strengthened. Then heavy timbers were thrown across the great hole torn in the vessel's side, by the Queen, and to these were added bedding and such material as enabled those in charge of the wrecking to stop the flow of water into the ship. Before the start was made the Adamson was practically freed of water by her own pumps. She was then hauled off the West Point beach, stern first, and in that position was towed to Quartermaster.

At this time she still carried about 1,000,000 feet of lumber, which will be discharged probably at the drydock. The vessel will then be hauled up on the dock in order to ascertain the full extent of her damage. This done, bids for repairs are to be called for. The wrecking work was carried on under the supervision of Captains Walker and Hills, Lloyd's agents.

The Adamson has been libeled for $20,000 by the Pacific Coast Company, owner of the Queen, and $1,000 per day demurrage during the time the Queen is in the shipyard for repairs. The Queen as already announced was libeled by the Adamson's owners for $113,000. The former was required to give $150,000 bonds and the Queen a $50,000 surety.

Meanwhile it has been decided to have permanent repairs made to the Queen. At first it was announced that only temporary repairs would be ordered. The permanent work, it is estimated, will cost $20,000, and will be completed May 20.

Three cases Panama Hats at $3.50, $9.00 and $10.00, just opened. B. Williams & Co. *

Granted a Divorce.—On April 24 last in San Francisco, a divorce was granted to Mrs. E. J. Earsman, of Victoria, from John Earsman, on the ground of desertion. The various incidents which culminated in this judicial separation are well known to Victorians. It is understood that "a well known widow of James Bay was responsible for the domestic estrangement."

Twenty cases fine imported Straw Hats 50c., 75c., and $1.00. B. Williams & Co. *

The Mistress—But what made you leave Mrs. Smythe so suddenly, Maria? The Maid—Oh, me an' 'er husband couldn't agree, so I thought it best to send in my resignation at once. It came to the pint where one of us 'ad to go.—Brooklyn Life.