

## THEIR OBJECT.

The following from a Toronto paper,—written by its most knowledgeable contributor—expresses a common belief:—

"From the first it has been apparent the ultimate aim of the U. M. W. A. campaign was injury to our coal trade. Our chiefest industry is fair game for the U. M. W., but what is most surprising is that our own provincial newspapers should join hands with the alien to work destruction on the financial bulwark of Nova Scotia credit. A long time ago we warned the Sydney Post that its endorsement of the U. M. W. A. cause was going to work havoc on the main industry of Glace Bay, and that anything which worked harm to Glace Bay would in the long run work much greater harm to Sydney and its one industry. The balance sheet of the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. for 1909 will show very conclusively what result the Glace Bay strike is going to have on its earnings. It is almost inconceivable that responsible newspapers should allow the tortuous ways of obscure local politics to lead them into an endorsement of such an unblushing attack on our main industry as the U. M. W. A. has made this summer.

While the onslaught of the U. M. W. A. on Nova Scotia was a long premeditated one, and would have been made sooner or later, it is questionable whether it could have been brought to a head had not Nova Scotian newspapers helped it along, and it has been an interesting study to watch the skilful way in which the agents of the U. M. W. A. have used a party press to attack Nova Scotia's financial credit, in the name, save the mark, of reform."

## RENEWAL OF CONTRACT.

(Glace Bay Gazette.)

"The renewal of the contract between the P. W. A. and the Dominion Coal Co. is an act that will have important and far reaching effects at the present critical stage of the local coal industry. That it has been renewed is a matter on which the people depending directly or indirectly upon the prosperity of the industry for their living should congratulate themselves.

With the United Mine Workers of America doing all they can to hand over the markets for Nova Scotia coal to the American coal operators and American coal to the extent of several hundred thousand tons, much more than ever, displacing Nova Scotia coal in the St. Lawrence market, and also being imported to Sydney for the Steel works, both the company and the P. W. A. recognized that a broad view of the situation should be taken. It was important for both parties that settled conditions of wages and rates should be continued so that the customers of the company could be assured that their contracts would be filled without delays or difficulties. The preserving of the market and the continued confidence of the people who buy the joint product of the mine workers and the company was considered by all to be of paramount importance, and the time was deemed in every way inopportune for opening a general discussion of rates—a discussion of which, if once begun, might be prolonged until it would have serious effects on the future of the industry on which both the men and the company depend. The present contract has worked well. The P. W. A. have

shown that they will unswervingly observe their solemn engagements. Since the strike began the company has gradually strengthened its position until now two-thirds of the normal output is being obtained. It was apparent to all interested in the negotiations that under these conditions, if the customers of the company could be assured of settled conditions regarding rates, they would make contracts for coal with confidence that the quantities required would be delivered, and taking a broad view of the matter the P. W. A. officers and members saw that the preservation of the market and the restoring fully of the confidence of the company's customers was the most important matter at the present juncture.

The renewal of the contract was one of the neatest strokes of business ever done by the P. W. A. It is the death knell of the U. M. W. as a factor to be considered in the local coal industry. The P. W. A. by renewing this contract for two years have placed themselves in a strategic position for the future which is far better than the securing of any temporary increase in rates which they might possibly have secured.

(Sydney Record.)

"The extension of the contract between the P. W. A. and the Coal Company for a further two-year period, or till the end of 1911, together with the advance in wages granted the lower paid laborers at the collieries, will have a tendency to clear the labor atmosphere at Glace Bay. More important still it will tend to create confidence among the big customers of the Dominion Coal Co. in Montreal and conserve that market which owing to the strike has been in danger from the activities of the American coal owners. The P. W. A. thus score a signal victory in the face of reiterated predictions that they would be unable to do anything when the time came to reconsider the contract. They have not only secured a renewal of the contract but a renewal with an advance in wages. True this advance affects only the colliery laborers, but it was on behalf of these that the great outcry was raised. They will now receive \$1.60, which is the highest wages paid this class of labor by any large corporation in Eastern Canada. While the U. M. W. by their tactics are endeavoring to demoralize the coal trade of the province, the union which they hoped to stamp out have succeeded in making an advantageous bargain for the miners. The irony of the situation is complete. It is to be hoped that the men on strike will now see the uselessness of further holding out and will return quietly to work."

Lost, stolen, or strayed; the sole survivor of the Free Coal League. Information as to his whereabouts will be gladly received by Mr. Dick's solicitor in the conspiracy case. Last seen at Fielding's court, three weeks ago.

The U. M. W., if they have done any blowing about one thing they were able to do more than other, it was the way in which they would "support" the striker, and for two years if necessary. They cannot surely be toying the mark as predicted, for their champion, the Sydney Post, taunts them for the measure of their support in these words, "For four months a large body of men, many of them with large families, have been 'eking' out existence on the strikers DOLE.