

that class alone. This statement shows that from the annual accumulation of wealth in the country a large share is distributed to those who are wage-earners.

We hear a great deal about the rich growing richer and the poor poorer. Those who make this assertion argue that because of the increase of millionaires their wealth has been taken from the small holders. This would be true if wealth did not increase and millionaires increased, as then there would necessarily be a concentration of wealth in the hands of the few at the expense of the property of the many; but as we have seen, wealth increases at tremendous strides, and the assertion that the rich are growing richer and the poor poorer

cannot be sustained. While it is true that the rich are growing richer, many more people are also growing rich, and the poor are better off. The poor must participate in the expanded distribution of wealth.

The millionaires of the country are distributing their wealth with more and more wisdom. During the past year more than \$100,000,000 were distributed for educational and religious purposes by the men who had accumulated vast wealth. The distribution of accumulations in the country results in benefit to every member of the community, and relieves those who accumulate wealth of the charge of using it in enervating distribution rather than in beneficial ways.

FACING A COAL FAMINE

REPORTS from all over eastern Canada are that emergency fuels will be resorted to during the winter as a substitute for coal. In this connection the coal famine promises to develop to an extraordinary degree and permanently establish a new industry in Canada. Throughout the Dominion there are hundreds of thousands of acres of the finest peat beds in the world. In northern Ontario alone there are bogs of sphagnum moss, many feet deep, covering an area estimated at 10,000 square miles. Several companies have already been chartered, and others are in course of organization, to exploit the vast peat districts of Ontario and Quebec. One plant in

the vicinity of Ottawa will be turning out this month about 100 tons of peat fuel daily.

Once peat fuel becomes established in the favor of the consumer, any future strike in the coal regions of Pennsylvania need have no terror for the people of this country, and it will make Canada for many years to come practically independent of any other country in a material so essential as fuel for comfort and existence. Even should the strike speedily terminate, the actual distress in Canada could not be materially abated before midwinter, and not only will there be great suffering, but a terrible increase in the mortality rate will result.—
The Chicago Record-Herald.