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**REPORT OF CONFERENCE
BETWEEN MINES AND MEN**Minutes in Full of Final Meeting of
Mine Managers and Representa-
tives of Mine Workers

The following is the text in full of the official minutes of the meeting between the Mine Managers and the representatives of the Mine Workers, as referred to last week in The Advance.

Meeting held at Hollinger Office July 18th to discuss The High Cost of Living and Its Alleviation.

The following were present:—Mr. Hawley.

Representing Hollinger Employees:—Mr. H. J. Webb, Mr. Newton, Mr. McCauley, Mr. Perrault.

Representing McIntyre Employees:—Mr. DeFeu, Mr. Muskett.

Representing Dome Employees:—Mr. Frank, Mr. Orde.

Representing Davidson Employees:—Mr. Daley.

Representing Porcupine-Crown Employees:—Mr. Blinkhorn.

The following managers were present:—Messrs. Brigham, Ennis, DePencier, Evered and Stewart.

Mr. Frank suggested that the meeting proceed without the Italian representative from the Dome.

Mr. Brigham read the letter from Messrs. DeFeu and Perrault. He also read the Managers' reply and letter received in reply to same. Letter of June 30th in reply was also read.

Letter stating that the meeting would be convened at the McIntyre July 11th was read. The notice inserted in the local paper was also read.

Mr. Hawley stated that so far as possible representatives were arranged to be present from each mine.

Mr. Hawley and all delegates present were in favor of the meeting proceeding.

Mr. Hawley then read the minutes of the meeting held Sunday July 13, 1919, appointing the representatives named above to meet the Mine Managers Friday, July 18th, at 3 p.m. and to submit the wage scale to the Mine Managers, which he did.

Mr. Brigham pointed out that the policy of the meeting was to consider unfinished business from the previous meeting held at the McIntyre July 11th.

Mr. Hawley then stated that the previous meeting discussed ways and means of alleviating the present high cost of living and that this was the purpose of the meeting to-day.

Mr. Brigham stated that what the meeting desired to know was how to increase the purchasing power of the dollar bill.

Mr. Newton stated that the easiest channel for the workman to follow to obtain this result was to demand an increase in wages and for this reason the new scale was suggested. Mr. Newton figures a dollar will only buy thirty-three and one third per cent of what it would purchase in 1914. Mr. Newton said that consequently the dollar had to be made to buy more or there must be more dollar bills.

Mr. Brigham pointed out that Mr. Newton's argument was very easy to understand as the same argument applies in the case of mines and mine managers. He suggested that the remedy should be the elimination of the middleman and buy direct from the producers, thereby eliminating all unnecessary profit. He stated that there is a limit to which the gold mining industry can go. Mr. Brigham pointed out the mine's dollar was no larger than the miner's or worker's dollar and that the cost of mining had increased to the limit and that the mines could not stand a further increase in the cost of production.

In answer to Mr. Hawley's question, Mr. Brigham stated he thought the mines were large enough to buy direct from the manufacturers at wholesale prices.

Mr. Frank desired to be shown exact figures as to whether or not the manufacturers would sell the mines at the same price they do to wholesalers.

Mr. Frank stated that in 1917 he got \$4.02 per day and paid \$1.00 per day for board. Now he gets \$4.00 per day and pays \$1.25 per day for board. Room rent has been raised from \$5.00 to \$7.50. He got \$32.75 for a half month, having worked every shift as solution man. He thought solution men's pay should be \$4.50 per day as they could easily earn their pay. He pointed out that at the Dome he is now going in the hole 27 cents per day and that he thinks the wages should be increased 50 cents per day as this would bring up efficiency and make the dollar bill grow larger.

Mr. DePencier stated that the old rate to solution men included a bonus of 50 cents for crowding forty thousand odd tons through the mill per month. This was not the situation at present and further stated that the board rate had been cut down from \$7.50 to 5.00.

Mr. Frank then stated that Dome board and room costs \$42.50 per month. Ordinary Timmins rates are \$8.00 he said.

Mr. Frank said that \$65.00 per month was not enough for solution men and cited cost of clothes at \$60.00 per suit. He has to pay \$100.00 for 2,000.00 20-pay life insurance. He also stated that in cyanide solution a pair of shoes will only last about two months.

Mr. Perrault spoke as a married man who has worked at the Hollinger for five years. He had to move into a smaller house at 10.00 per month and has to cut his own wood. About one and a half to two years ago he could save a dollar or two. This saving is now almost exhausted as a married man has more sickness bills than a single man. He said to-day he can make both ends meet; he lives comfortably and gets good quality food.

Mr. Brigham then stated that the Hollinger would engage to institute a sickness insurance for employees, the cost of same to be borne by the Company, the men to get half pay when laid up. He thought the other mines would do the same thing. The Hollinger Board of Directors considered the matter recently and are agreeable.

Mr. Brigham said the working man would get half pay while sick and he thought the only other solution he could offer at this meeting was the opening up of a company store.

Mr. Frank stated that increased production would decrease costs; that the way to solve the situation was to increase wages and this would attract workers to the district.

In response to Mr. Webb, Mr. Ennis stated the McIntyre would start a store on August 1st and Mr. Brigham said the McIntyre would not beat

(Continued on page 7)

**Annual Excursion to
Monteith****FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 1919**

The Regular Annual Excursion and Picnic to the Monteith Demonstration Farm will be held on the above date. A special train will be run from Latchford to Monteith. Regular train service from all points north of Monteith.

The speakers will be: Honorable G. H. Ferguson, Minister of Lands, Forests, and Mines; Honorable Geo. S. Henry, Minister of Agriculture; also experts on Dairying Live Stock, Domestic Science, and other agricultural topics of interest.

	Fare	
Kelso	.15	
Porquis Jet.	.25	
Hoquois Falls	.25	
Kilburn	.25	
Connaught	.25	
Keyson	.25	
Three Nations	.30	
Porcupine	.30c	Regular train service
South Porcupine	.35c	
Schumacher	.40	
Timmins	.40	
Nellie Lake	.25	
Holland	.25	
Nahma	.30	
Cochrane	.35	

Returning special train will leave Monteith for Latchford Charlton and Elk Lake at 5.00 p.m., August 8th, 1919.

Above fares do not include war tax.

Refreshments

The Women's Institute of Monteith will be prepared to furnish a hot dinner to all who come without lunch baskets, and also furnish tea and coffee at a nominal sum to those who wish it.

Arrangements are being made to provide amusements for the children as well as older people. Plan to take in the Excursion and enjoy a day's outing with your friends.

L. H. HANLAN,
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