

Mullan, Idaho, Jan'y 27, 1901.

Opr. reports that a number of miners who were recently discharged at the Hunter Mine, went to Burke and Gem to secure work and not being able to secure any returned to Mullan and are in hopes of getting on at the Hunter when it starts up again.

While in Gem these men were interviewed by Sec'y Balch of the Miners Union who advised them to hold on and not leave the country as Martial Law would soon be declared off and they would all be given work again.

The closing down of the Hunter Mine has discouraged some of the miners and citizens of Mullan and several miners have left for British Columbia.

J. Gould and other miners say that the closing down of the Hunter is a move on the part association to force the Hunter Management to employ their men through Edmiston Agency at Wallace.

The thirty men who quit work at the Morning Mine, had no intention of doing so until this morning and some of them are very sorry they done so.

The only excuse they could offer was that they did not like the change from Eight to Ten hour shift.

Secy Balch of the Gem Union seems to have considerable influence over Union Men and it is the opinion of opr. that he is quietly breeding trouble.

Wardner Idaho, Jan. 30, 1901.

Opr reports that, in an interview with Marten Davis he said that the Last Chance Mine were putting a lot of Old union men to work, he said that Supt. Miller of the Empire State Mine is giving all old union men a show to get on.

Opr. said to him that the Last Chance Mine have laid off a lot of men of late and Davis remarked Yes, that is why the Mine wants to put Old men on and almost all union men.

He says that all of the mining companies in the Coeur D' Alenee will come to this soon, Red Stratton is pulling out of the union and says that the union men of the Coeur D' Alenee consists of a lot of hold ups and cut threats and that he did not know it or believe it until now and there is no wonder the Mining Co's do not give them a show to work, if they did it would not be long before some of the union men would have a committee appointed to go to the Managers and ask them for some unreasonable thing just to cause a disturbance in order to let the out side world know that the Coeur D' Alenee have a miner union.

Stratton also says that Ed Boyce is the cause of a lot of trouble and when ever he wants to make a hit with the Irish he writes to the different unions and ask them to go and demand of the managers some thing that he knows will not be granted and then there is a strike, and us poor fools have to stand for it but not any more with me Stratton says.

Some people here are disposed to believe that the Last Chance Barn was set on fire a few nights ago, but nothing definite can yet be learned concerning it.

Opr could not learn that Elliott and O'Grady were in town at the time of the fire.

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