

GEM, IDAHO, 2/25/01.

Opr. reports that he was in Wallace last Saturday with Secretary Balch and other union men when a bunch of men came in from the East. The event caused quite a little talk among the union men who seemed to be very bitter against the Mining Companies for bringing in these men and most of them expressed the opinion that it would be the death blow to the union men in the camp and several of them remarked that it seemed that the only proper thing for union men to do was to leave the camp, which many of them are doing. A large number of them are going to British Columbia. Balch said that it hurt the old-timers to see new men come in here in bunches as they could not now get up a mob to beat them off as they once could.

There is a rumour among union men to the effect that wages will be cut soon. Balch said they were going to try and get up a surprise for the Companies if they tried to cut the wages. He said that the scheme would be to get agitators in the mines with the new men and cause dissatisfaction among them.

Opr. reports the following:-

(W).	Dan. Sheehe.	
(W).	--Hendrickson,	XXX.
(G).	Doc. Nugent,	X.
(G).	Jim. Bamfield.	X.
(G).	Jim. Boum.	X.
(G).	Geo. Cardew,	X.
(G).	A. Madden,	X.
(B).	Geo. McDonald,	X.
(M).	Pete Conger,	X.
(G).	W. Yustice,	X.
(G).	John Cassidy,	XXX.
(G).	F. Ferguson,	X.
(G).	John Morris,	X.
(B).	Tony Rêcia,	XXX.
(M).	True Allen,	X.
(M).	Wm. Allen,	X.
(B).	Tom Tyeck,	XXX.
(G).	Jim. Cassidy,	X.

WARDNER, IDAHO, Feb. 28th, 1901.

Opr. reports Tom. Billings, XX; Ed. Skidmore, XX; Joe. Donovan, XX; P.S. Sullivan, XX; Jack Pules, XX; Jim. Duellittle, XX; and A.E. Moore, XX as coming into Wardner from Butte and Rossland this week and are looking for employment in the mines here. Some of them say they will take out a number from the agency and some say that they will not go near the employment office but try and get in a mine without it. Tom. Billings says that he knows the Supt. and Foreman of the "Last Chance" mine and thinks that he can get a job alright without a number. In an interview with Bittner, a saloon keeper at Wardner, he said that the Mining Companies of the Couer de Alenes had killed business in the camps by employing outside labour. He said that when the old union men were working there was life in all the camps but everything is dead now and business is getting worse all the time. He says that this goes to show that the Mining Companies are clubbing together and will in time have everything their own way and drive everybody out of here and when they accomplish this they will employ foreign labour, probably Japanese, and then it will be

all off with white men .

The Wardner Miners' union is having considerable trouble among themselves. Some of the members say that had it not been for the union they would be working now but as it is there is no show whatever for union men to ever get work again in the Couer de Alenes

Red Stratton says that it will not do for the union men to be too radical in things and that if the union men would not listen to Ed. Boyce so much they would be better off. He says it will only be a matter of time when there will be no miners' union in Wardner . That all union men thought things would come their way after election and on account of that a great many joined the union thinking it might help them out, but on seeing that things are the same as before or even worse since the election men are drifting out of the unions and intend to stay out. Jim. Conway says that union men will not stand this lockout much longer and will some day get together and go to the managers and demand of them employment and ask them not to import outside labour

in the Couer de Alenes as the old miners have the right to first place in this ~~xxxx~~camp and others .

WALLACE, IDAHO, 26Feb. 1901.

Opr. reports Charles Henderson, X. B.C., at Mullan . He says that he knows how to get a job from Edminston . He says that he will tell Edminston that he went to the Glocan country in the Winter or Spring of 1899 previous to the strike and that the unions have blacklisted him until he can't get a job up there. Dennis Flynn, XX, Mullan, says that as soon as the eight hour law goes into effect there will be a cut in the wages and that there are a few god men here yet and that there is a good man once in a while among the new men who are being imported into the camp. J.A. Norman, XXX, from Lewiston, Idaho, is at Mullan and says that in the Spring there is to be extensive repairing at the Morning Mill and that the Union Carpenters would have a good opportunity to talk with a number of the miners and get the best of them to join the union and that some of the union miners could go in place of the scabs and that the probability is that in the Spring some of the scabs in this vicinity would turn up "missing".

H.E. Whitmore has been observed talking with Pete Benier several times during the week and is getting very confidential with him. Whitmore says that Finch & Campbell own too much property now for the good of the camp .

Owen Larson, X, B.C.; Wm. Hawley, X, B.C.; Arthur Ferguson, X, B.C.; Fred Day, G. Jack McCarthy and others in an interview claimed in an interview that W.A. Clark of Butte is going to put quite a force of men on his properties as soon as he commences to build his Concentrator and that a scheme is on foot to put all old timers to work first . They say that Clark will be working independent of the Clique who control the Mine-Owners Association of the Couer de Alenes and that union men will have a better chance to receive employment from him than anyone else .

Angus McKay , Engineer on the 1000 foot level on the Frisco mine says that there are a lot of men at work in the mine that if he could get them on the cage together he would like to have an accident McKay would not give any names and is rather guarded in his conversation saying that he did not wish to say too much as he was a relative to

3.

the Sheriff and it was through him that he got his position.

Some of the Union miness are reporting that the ~~Union~~ Morning Mining Company will commence to cut wages on March first and that others will soon follow.

Rossland, B.C., Feb. 28th, 1901.

A large number of men coming in from the Couer de Alene Districts are being listed here . The majority of them are going to Greenwood and Phoenix camps in British Columbia.