

Wardner, Idaho, April 20, 1901.

Opr reports:

That to-day he had an interview with Micheal O'Grady and John Elliott; they had been to Gem and reported of the situation there as follows:

Not since the name of Coeur D' Alene had a place on the map of Idaho has there existed through out the region, such a reign of terror and criminal lawlessness as now prevails, and all the same the direct result of the unpardonal actions of the sheriffs office with the aid of Mg'r Burbridge and others, The sheriff has the miserable honor of employ- ing a number of deputies whose only apperant duty has been to arouse slumbering passions, and percipitate wanton and quarrels, whenever an imaginary pretext offered an excuse to shoot down their fellow men, such matter have arrived at a stage of the game, where they will have to take a turn, then Sheriffs, Deputies, and Managers will bite the dust, It makes no difference if a man goes along minding his own business he is liable to be shot down any hour.

There are a few of us in the Coeur D' Alenes who will, before we bite the dust, do harm to those who are the cause of all this trouble.

The Western Federation of Miners must do something to retain their good name, and the way matters now appear, it is, as though they were cowards and dare not stand up for their rights, We intend to lay low for a few weeks and make good preprations, before we make a start to do a good job of it.

Elliott showed Opr, a letter from Ed. Boyce of Butte, wherein he wrote, do not make a break until you are certain that every thing is clear fr you to get out, Boyce also wrote that the Butte Miners Union have put aside a fund of \$5000 to help out the boys who are in the Coeur D' Alenes, to-gether with those who are sent in by the Butte Miners, names of those sent in are as follows:

John Elliott, Mike O'Grady, Bill Evans, Pat Donway, and Jim Burkhart,

O'Grady tells Opr these men are to organize and lead a party, when the proper time comes, which he says is not far off, that is to go through the Sheriff, Deputies and Managers in such a manner as never before been seen, Evans, Donway and Burkhart are now in Mullan and Gem, Opr has not yet seen either of them.

Bill Dunston of Wardner says Dr. Mason the corner, is a friend of the Western Federation of Miners, and that he has proved himself a man of nerve, especially so, when he took the guns away from Hicks at Gem, This man also prophsied that Sam Finley would be behind the bars for a long time, as there is no doubt but that Finley killed Fisher, for which he must pay the penalty

(8)