SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

YOUNG ROCKEFELLER AND THE MINERS

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., should not be blamed his whole life for his foolish speech when a young man about the American Beauty rose. As he grew older there are increasing signs of a serious effect on his part to discharge the duties to his fellowmen which his father, a great fortune cast upon him in a conscientious, intelligent and sympathetic manner and spirit.

The young man's visit to the Colorado mines and miners has proved that he is determined at last to understand the facts of that grave problem. Managers, especially managers who have risen themselves from the ranks, will no longer be taken in a large.

A half-hearted overseer was always the crudest on the slavery plantations.

The stage is now for Young Rockefeller to discover that he is his brother's keeper to the extent, at least, of knowing at first hand how his employees are being treated, and that for this knowledge he cannot depend wholly upon reports of managers.

Under the plan now proposed by Mr. Rockefeller, and accepted by what we may designate as the representatives of the miners, there are to be four committees selected by the delegates chosen, with the six members, of the nine miners and three owners, on each committee. One of these committees will deal with settlement of labor differences, one with safety first accidents, one with health and housing and one with education and recreation.

The company pledges itself that there shall be no discrimination on account of membership in any society or union. This of course means open shop and will be the chief bone of contention.

The plan of operation as to labor disputes is as follows: Any miner or group of miners, who have a grievance and wish to try to settle it as individuals or as members of the company, they may go before the joint committee which deals with that kind of the dispute and if this committee fails to adjudge the difference it shall be settled either by arbitration or by the Colorado state industrial commission as the miners may choose.

It is interesting to note that pending the discussion of this matter a company agent in a house of one of the miners' houses or cost of light beyond a price agreed upon; that there is no charge for clothing and that the company has purchased it and the miners get it at cost: the company agent has the right to build a store on the company grounds and to sell the goods in it, and charge the inmates of the mine for everything they buy, including the room rent.

And all this comes from Young Rockefeller's personal visit to the miners—and therein lies the hope of his successful operation of the great properties of which he is the head. Personal investigation and close contact with conditions that really come to know their wishes and desires and they will feel that he is interested in their welfare as well as in the profitable operation of the mines.

The Philadelphia Record notes that the man who would rather lose a friend than argue sometimes loses both. Did you ever take notice of how rich men follows seize an opportunity for argument? Take away their food and drink and they will still thrive on argument.

The rising price of wheat may indicate that it is succeeded that the allies are still a long way from forcing the Dardanelles.

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