

FERNIE MEN FIRM IN  
REFUSAL TO WORK  
WITH ALIENS IN MINE

# Appeals to Return to Work Meet With Cold Response

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Fernie, B.C., June 9.—The committee appointed at yesterday afternoon's meeting of miners, and composed of W. L. Phillips, Thomas Upphill, Thomas Biggs, Harry Martin, Nick Mloisco and Sam Heany, met the men, who had adjourned to meet in the big skating rink under the hill, and reported that they had met the officers of the coal company, who, in the absence of Mr. W. R. Wilson, manager, were not in a position to take any action. Besides this unavoidable state, they felt that the men were asking the company to do what was the duty of the government in such cases. Secretary Youngs and Superintendent Caulfield were both firm in this stand, and the report was submitted, without recommendation, by the committee.

After several short speeches from the men and answers from the officers, a motion, which read as follows, was put:

"Resolved, that the men as Britishers, and others who are friendly, are willing and will work, but not under present conditions, that is, not with alien enemies."

An amendment was submitted that the meeting adjourn until an answer to a wire sent to Victoria, had been received.

The evening meeting, like the afternoon gathering was very firm in the stand that they would not go to work until the matter had been satisfactorily settled.

Mayor Uphill, who was chairman, and other Mine Workers' officials, were earnest in their appeals to the men to be careful not to assume the responsibility of breaking contract, and pleaded with them to refer the matter to the government, but the humor of the majority of the men did not seem to run in that direction. The demand that the Germans and Austrians be interned, and that they refuse to work until that had been done was insistent.

Frequent references to German outrages and to the fate of Belgium and the sinking of the Lusitania, showed