

SEEK SOLUTION TO MINE STRIKE

**Hon. Wm. Sloan in City Today
Conferring With Represent-
atives of Both Sides in
Fernie Dispute.**

In an endeavor to bring about a settlement of the dispute which has caused 1300 miners in the Fernie district to remain on strike for the past two weeks, Hon. Wm. Sloan, minister of mines, is in the city today conferring with representatives for the

miners, the operators, and with W. H. Armstrong, fuel administrator for Eastern British Columbia under the Dominion government.

The miners went on strike when their demand for a single shift at the coal mines was not granted, they contending that under the then existing arrangement of two shifts of eight hours each, with four hours between each shift, sufficient time to permit all the gas fumes to escape from the mines was not allowed. With the one shift of eight hours, sixteen full hours would be allowed for the removal of the gas. There are 800 miners in

Fernie and 500 in Michel out on strike, the whole representing District 18.

This morning the minister of mines conferred with the operators in Mr. Armstrong's office and this afternoon will meet the miners' representatives, the fuel administrator being present at both these meetings. If some basis of settlement is reached, a joint meeting will be held afterwards.

W. R. Wilson, general manager of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, and B. Caulfield, superintendent, are attending the conference, and Thomas Biggs of Fernie, president of the miners' union; W. Potter and Wm Hunter of Fernie, and J. Beard of Michel, are present representing the men.