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### FINDS CAUSE MINERS' STRIKE

Attempt to Remedy Conditions of Living in Coal Mining Regions of Wales.

LONDON, Sept. 21.—An ambitious scheme to make housing conditions in the South Wales coalfield tolerable is outlined in the report of the South Wales regional survey committee.

The committee was appointed by the Minister of Health last year to draw up recommendations for the location of the houses which it was hoped to build by the aid of the state.

Some of the worst features of the conditions existing in the valleys are first set out. The mining population of South Wales—and one-third of the whole male population of that large area is engaged in the winning of coal—has been concentrated in narrow valleys with steep sides, which, by their geographical formation, are unfit to be the homes of large numbers. There is the scarcity of suitable housing sites and of land for recreation purposes; the proximity of the pitheads (generally situated on the valley bottom), and the dirt, grime and smoke which naturally extends everywhere between the hills; and there is the pollution of the rivers.

#### Discontent.

Life in such depressing surroundings and the sameness of occupation, say the Committee, "have a marked effect in causing discontent and unrest."

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To escape by building towns on the hill-tops is impossible because of the bleak situation, difficulty of access, the poverty of the soil, and absence of water supplies.

Creation of New Towns. The committee, therefore, recommend the creation of new towns which shall be preserved as residential or dormitory areas, away from the coal measures, but linked with them by adequate railway services. An effort to put an end to the segregation of the miner is also proposed, for "the residents should belong to different industries."

To preserve its character and definitely limit its size an agricultural belt within its own boundaries is recommended. Fifteen localities for these grouped housing schemes—all near railway junctions—have been chosen, and each would serve a particular valley or group of valleys.

Curious Experiment. To test the experiment the committee recommend the establishment of two complete dormitory towns, one near Llantrisant station for a population of about 30,000, and the other by the re-planning or remodelling of Bridgend and its expansion into a dormitory town about four times its present size. This can only be done satisfactorily by the Government (though with the association of the residents in the management of the scheme from its earliest stages), and the committee urge that at any rate the Llantrisant scheme should be immediately taken in hand.

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### SHARK FISHING INVESTIGATED

Juneau Man Returns After Making Study of Business.

JUNEAU, Sept. 20.—That the shark fishing industry in Alaska will some time be a great one, is the opinion of Charles G. Warner of this city, who has returned from a trip to the South to investigate the possibilities of the business.

"The fish meal, made from the carcass of the shark, brings a high price and there is a great demand for it; the oil from the shark livers sells readily at 40 cents a gallon, and the hides find a ready market in the East," Mr. Warner said today.

#### Seattle Not Ready.

While at Seattle Mr. Warner visited the plant of the Universal By-Products Company, which tans shark skins for leather. He found he said, that the Seattle market is not ready to receive shark skins in quantities from Alaska, owing partly to financial depression and no outlet for the products. He found the plant, however, an interesting one to visit and secured samples of the leather made up in different ways. These samples show that the shark skin leather is far superior to cow hide and is practically everlasting. Five shark skins that he took with him as a test shipment were found to have been treated right and ready for tanning.

#### Market in East.

Mr. Warner said that he got in touch with parties in the East who handle shark skins and have a market for all the leather that they can manufacture and he expects to get definite word from them soon as to Alaska shipments. It is claimed that shark fishing is now quite an industry on the Atlantic Coast and that the number caught cannot supply the demand.

There are a number of boat owners who are awaiting definite word as to the market for shark skins, oil and fish meal before going into the shark fishing industry on a large scale and it is very probable that within a short time the business will be launched here.

Mr. Warner says he found that financial conditions at Seattle were in a very acute state, business there very much different than on his last visit two years ago.

LABOR POLITICS IN CAPITAL OF MANITOBA  
Socialists to Put Up Candidates—Woodsworth Likely Independent.

Intent upon launching a vigorous and early campaign, in the federal election, the Winnipeg branch of the Socialist party of Canada nominated R. B. Russell, H. M. Bartholemew and Charles Stewart as the party's standard bearers to contest three local constituencies, at a meeting of the organization in the Bon Accord block, says the Winnipeg Free Press. A meeting of the provincial executive of the party will be held to consider nominations submitted by the Lettish local of the party and an outside local.

With the naming of candidates the Socialist party has the distinction of being the first local organization to announce a party slate. According to tentative arrangements, and providing that the nominations are endorsed by the party's executive, Mr. Russell will run in Winnipeg North, which embraces the riding which he unsuccessfully contested in the last provincial election. Mr. Bartholemew will contest the centre constituency and Mr. Stewart, Springfield.

**Woodsworth Mentioned.**  
It was rumored in Labor circles last night that S. J. Woodsworth would be nominated in Winnipeg North by the Independent Labor party in the event of this party being unable to merge itself in the recently organized Canadian Labor party. Mr. Woodsworth is organizer for the Labor church. He was on the original slate of candidates selected by the Dominion Labor party at the time of the last provincial elections, but his name was subsequently deleted.

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