

No. 24 reports:

Kellogg, Idaho, Thursday, March 8-06.

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Visited the inside workings of the mine on time last night. Kellogg, Idaho, Friday, March 9-06.

I reported for work last evening at the Bunker Hill Mine but on account of the gas I was sent home. All of the men working on the day shift were sent home at noon. At the present time they are having considerable trouble with the fire in the mine. There appears to be a stoppage in the draft, which allows the gas to reach the lower levels.

I was at Wardner last night and found that the men are very uneasy in regard to the forced lay off, especially the married men. The single men do not appear to mind it so much, as many of them are about ready to leave the camp. Many of the men of families have their homes here and are settled permanently, and a forced lay off of any duration is very inconvenient for them.

A number of the men of the camp are talking of going on their claims and going to Alaska and other places as soon as spring opens up, and it is very probable that there will be a scarcity of competent men shortly.

I have not yet been approached by any one in regard to joining the union. From members of the Industrial Union I have been informed that body is nothing more or less than a sort of a beneficial union for men sick or injured, and that the body takes very little or no action in labor matters.

There are no organizers for the W.F. of M. in the camp. Although there was a little talk among the union sympathizers of the camp in regard to raising money for the imprisoned officers of the union, there has been nothing done in this connection as yet, and it is very evident that the men charged with the murder of ex-governor Steunenberg have very few sympathizers in this camp. Denunciations of these men are frequently heard here.

Yours respectfully,

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Reported,  
Spokane, March 10th-06.