

~~Estevan Strike~~

Regina Star, Oct 24/31

## COMPLAINTS OF MINERS HEARD

Star Oct. 24/31.  
Commission at Estevan Con-  
tinues Sessions

Exclusive to The Star

ESTEVAN, Oct. 24.—Bootlegging of groceries and other commodities encouraged in the Manitoba and Saskatchewan Mine due to rules forcing employees to deal with company stores, the latter charging in excess of the town stores' prices.

Evidence to this effect was adduced before the Royal Commission sitting here to enquire into conditions at the Estevan-Bienfait lignite field. The commission opened at 10 o'clock and adjourned for noon recess at 12:30 o'clock. Nine witnesses appeared before the commission.

Madeline Thompson, the wife of a miner, told the commission that she purchased meat outside and brought it into the mine at midnight to evade inspection. She complained that prices at company stores were higher than outside sources.

Mrs. Francis Gray stated that she had parcels from mail order stores sent to Taylorton post office to avoid suspicion. She also went at night to buy meat from farmers.

Mike Kresko complained that pay envelopes sent sealed from Winnipeg were opened when miners received them. Deductions were made in the office of all subs, loans and fines before men received the envelopes.