

shovels. Four days ago there were ten thousand shovels worth ten thousand dollars. Today they are worth \$50,000."

"They are not worth one cent more," declared the dissenter, who was Tom Morgan. "They are the same shovels. You can't shovel any more dirt with one today than you could yesterday. A shovel is a shovel, and a shovel is made to shovel with. That's all there is to it."

Morgan spoke without realizing that there might be much more to it—and he was not aware that he was stating the basis of one of the two economic theories that were, later, to rend the camp.

Martin said:

"These shovels will sell today for \$50,000. Therefore, they are worth \$50,000."

And therein Martin stated the opposing theory.

So impressed was he with this idea that, glancing about in search of the straw boss and not seeing him, he sat down to think over his discovery. Morgan also thought, and repeated:

"A shovel is made to shovel with!"

To one intent on shoveling it might appear that way, but not to Martin. Something was burning in his brain. It was the Big Idea.

"I don't feel well," said Martin. "Tell the boss, when he gets around, that I'm ailing and have had to go home."

"All right," said Morgan.