

exercise a large influence on the price of coal and in preventing monopolies among private owners of coal lands.

This power of control is worth millions to the future development of the mining interests of that part of our Dominion, as well as controlling the price of coal in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.

#### **DOMINION GOVERNMENT GAVE NO COAL AWAY.**

Demagogues and agitators have persistently misrepresented the Dominion Government with respect to the coal lands in the Crow's Nest Pass country. They have tried to make the public believe that the Dominion Government gave the coal lands of the Crow's Nest to the railway corporation and its friends. This is absolutely untrue. In the first place, all the coal lands concerned are in British Columbia. The Dominion authorities had no control over them. They were the property of the British Columbia Government. The Provincial authorities made a grant of these coal lands to the British Columbia Southern Railway Company. The charter of the Company was subsequently secured by the C. P. R. Whatever blame there may have been in the granting of the coal lands lay upon the Provincial Government. But the Dominion Government by its subsidy arrangement destroyed the danger of a monopoly of the coal fields that might have resulted had the original Provincial arrangement prevailed. The Dominion authorities, as already pointed out, secured one-fifth of the coal lands. These it holds as a protection to the public.

#### **A GOOD BARGAIN.**

Reviewing the situation with respect to the Crow's Nest Pass Railway subsidy, one will see that the arrangement secured an important market for Canadian farmers and manufacturers; secured reductions in freight rates which have already saved millions of dollars to the farmers of Canada and will continue to save millions more in the future; secured large coal fields for the Dominion Government, and thus prevented the possibility of a monopoly of the coal in the Crow's Nest district. And, finally, that these and other concessions for the benefit of the public were secured at a cost that was really only a trifle. The Crow's Nest Pass arrangement is one to be proud of.