

## The Coal Situation And the Legislative Council

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—At the outset of this letter, I wish it to be clearly understood that I believe no profiteering has been going on in coal, so far as the retailer is concerned. We have been paying too much for coal at Sydney, and too high freight. During debate in the Legislative Council last Monday and Tuesday, I quoted figures to prove my position. For shedding coal I allowed 40 cents per ton; Hon. Mr. Grieve said 60 cents. Hon. Mr. Bishop, who has been trying for some time to solve the high cost of coal by importing large shipments in the s.s. Earl of Devon, or at least bringing enough coal to fill fourteen cellars at one time, gave as his opinion that the cost of shedding coal was \$1.40 per ton and that my figures were all wrong. The debate was continued on Tuesday. I again maintained that the figures submitted by me on Monday were approximately correct. Hon. Mr. Bishop corrected his figures of the previous day from \$1.40 to \$1.20 for shedding coal, and \$1.00 for landing, in all, \$2.20. My hon. friend further stated that he found it cheaper to buy half a ton of coal outside than buy his own. I am not interested in the coal cargo of the Earl of Devon or what became of it, or how it was sold and the price paid for it. I have no interest in political wire pulling, and much less in single or double leg pulling, although both of them often play a part in our Legislative Hall.

In one of our papers Hon. Mr. Bishop is reported as having said that "he would not waste the time of the House by replying at length, because the figures quoted were preposterous and Mr. Anderson's argument was absurd, but he would be quite willing, any time Mr. Anderson and his informant had half an hour, to go into the matter with them, and disprove by the test of his own actual experience in importing cargoes, the ridiculous estimates which Mr. Anderson had put forward." Because my figures did not agree with those of my hon. friend in the cost of shedding, they must be all wrong but a simple statement from his mouth is not proof enough that my figures are all wrong; I will leave these figures for examination to the public. I have no interest in the Dominion Coal Co. I have no shares in the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company, nor do I gamble on margin upon the Stock Exchange of these companies. I have only one interest, and that is cheaper coal for the country. In trying to do good for our fellow men we are not wasting time.

### COAL CARRIERS.

We can never expect to find a solution in the high cost of coal brought from Sydney to St. John's in schooners whose tonnage is only from two hundred to three hundred tons, nor yet will we find a solution by employing such steamers as the

S.S. Thetis . . . 530 tons.  
S.S. Neptune . . . 550 "  
S.S. Ranger . . . 580 "  
S.S. Eagle . . . 650 "

much less a steamer of the size of the Earl of Devon, whose carrying capacity, I understand, is about 200 tons; these steamers in the coal trade will never reduce the cost. Bailing buckets of coal from the ship's side in quarters and half tons in the month of June is not good enough; we must be up and doing. The s.s. Bonaventure, when in the Newfoundland trade, carried 1,300 tons coal. S.S. Bellaventure, 1,350 tons, and the S.S. Adventure, 1,970 tons.

The coal situation has become alarming and serious. I have every confidence that the Government will handle this problem in a thorough and business-like manner. This country requires about two hundred thousand tons of coal, one hundred thousand tons for the Outports, and one hundred thousand tons for the City of St. John's. Newfoundland is a good customer of the Dominion of Canada. Our imports last year were over \$12,000,000. We have treated the Bell Island Ore Companies in every way that has been fair and just, and in return we ask for a square deal for this island in her coal trade. We do not ask coal for ore in a spirit

of retaliation; we ask it as a matter of reciprocal justice at a fair price, and assist us with their steamers to bring the coal to St. John's. What we want for the coal trade in St. John's is a steamer to carry from 2000 tons up to 5000 tons at a flat rate per ton, and at a reasonable flat rate for coal per ton without demurrage and extraordinary charges added to the price of coal. The price for Screened North Sydney Coal quoted a few days ago was \$7.75 per ton, and for Domestic Coal \$7.25.

Newfoundland is entitled to be on the list of the lowest contract paying price of the company for good coal and not dirt and dross. This might be an opportune time to come to some agreement upon the coal and ore question; the Companies are forming themselves into one great Limited Company. The following cable despatch has an interest to the public of St. John's:

"D.L.S. Directorate; Changes expected.—The majority of Directors of the Dominion Steel Corporation have signed a request to President Wolvin for the calling of a special meeting to-morrow when, according to information from well-informed circles financially, the chief question to be considered will be that arising out of the form of proxy sent to shareholders for the annual meeting next Tuesday. It is understood that sweeping changes on the Board are regarded as within possibility and there is talk of resignations before the annual meeting in June."

Plans of merger have taken definite shape and will be known as the British Empire Corporation to have a Capital of \$500,000,000. Plans in connection with the British Empire Steel Corporation, Ltd., took definite shape the last week in April, when the Directors of several of the Steel Companies concerned were to meet in Montreal, to have placed before them the offer that had been agreed upon between representatives of the various Companies and Col. Grant Morden and other British interests looking to the merger of these companies in the new corporation. The merging of these companies is the biggest affair of its kind that has ever developed in Canada, as may be indicated by the fact that the authorized capital is \$500,000,000. This, it is understood will be divided as follows:

First Preference Stock . \$100,000,000  
Second do. Stock . . . 150,000,000  
Third do. Stock . . . 50,000,000  
Common Stock . . . 200,000,000  
\$500,000,000

### COMPANIES INCLUDED:

Among the Companies that will be included in addition to the Dominion Steel Corporation, Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company, and Canada Steamship Lines, will be the Halifax Shipyards, Halifax, N.S., Collingwood, Ont., and the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company of Port Arthur, Ont. There will also be included in the merger, The Montreal Transportation Company.

This Dominion owes much to the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company; they have paid large sums of money in wages during the past twenty years, which we thank them for, but from a business standpoint it has been a question of value for value received.

Coal valued at 3 cents a ton.  
Iron Ore valued at 7 cents a ton.  
On the above valuations I leave to the citizens of St. John's to reason together. These figures are recognized on a very conservative basis, on which valuation of assets of the Big Steel Merger is made.

Referring to the big steel merger Col. Grant Morden, M.P., said the British Empire Steel Corporation was not capitalizing the enormous holdings of coal and iron ore which would form part of its assets, and which were in excess of those of U. S. Steel. The surplus financial assets of the British Empire Steel Corporation would show up, comparatively speaking, as strong as the others. More-over there was \$350 of appraised value behind every \$100 share of common stock of the new corporation. The basis of the valuation of the coal, Col. Morden said, "is taken at 40 cents a ton at the beginning, and is graded down to 3 cents a ton at the end of 50 years, to meet the increasing charges, and no allowance is made for what coal then remains in the reserve, although the programme as mapped out for mining coal would leave five-sixths of the deposits still untouched at the end of fifty years. So, in the case of iron ore, which we have valued at \$1.00 per ton at the start. This is to be scaled down to 7 cents per ton at the end of fifty years, and it is estimated that all the mining of iron ore in that time will have removed only 10 per cent of the total deposits. Our estimates of the value of the ore and coal deposits run to \$203,000,000, or one-half of the total assets of the new Corporation."

### ESTIMATE OF COST.

The two following flat rates I will leave to the judgment of the public, and if my figures are wrong, then it

is only a matter of negotiation to make them right. Fifty thousand tons to be delivered in St. John's during the next four months would be a great relief to the public, and would fill the coal cellars of many a householder in the city.

Coal \$12.50 per ton.  
50,000 tons coal, including freight—\$8.00 . . . \$400,000  
Coal \$15.50 per ton.  
50,000 tons coal, including freight—\$10.00 . . . 500,000  
The question of a straight flat rate is a matter of agreement, but should not, at least for one season or year, exceed ten dollars.  
Coal at a flat rate of \$4.00 per ton.  
Freight at a flat rate of \$4.00 per ton  
30 hours discharging.  
120 men employed.

One Cargo.  
2000 tons coal, \$4.00 . . . \$8,000.00  
2000 tons freight, \$4.00 . . . 8,000.00  
2000 tons duty, 70c. . . 1,400.00  
2000 tons cartage, \$1.60 . . . 3,200.00  
2000 tons loss of weight, 40c. . . 800.00  
2000 tons insurance . . . 200.00  
2000 tons shedding, 40c. . . 800.00

(Wages 60 men.)  
2 days, 10 hours each, 70c. per hour, \$7.00 per day, \$14.00 . . . 840.00  
1 night 7 to 12, 5 hours, @ 85c. . . \$4.25  
1 night 1 to 6, 5 hours, @ \$1.50 . . . \$7.50  
60 men . . . \$11.75  
705.00  
Profit 10% . . . \$29,945.00  
2394.50  
\$26,339.50

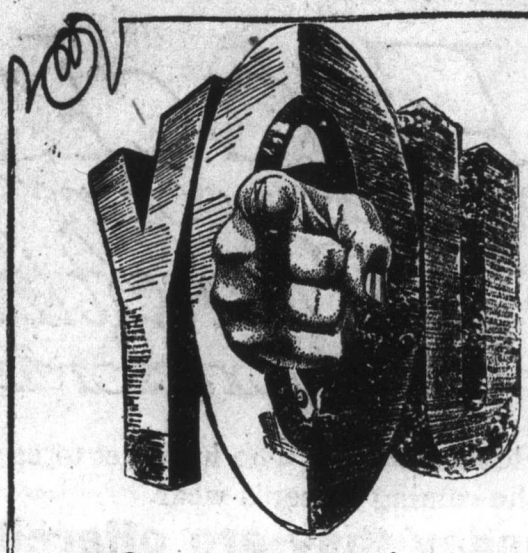
Estimated cost of cargo and profit . . . \$26,339.50  
Credit Balance . . . 680.50  
\$27,000.00

2000 tons coal @ \$13.50 . . . \$27,000.00  
Profit . . . 2,394.50  
Credit balance . . . 680.50  
Provided for loss of weight, if any . . . 800.00  
Provided for shedding coal, if stored; if sold from the ship's side storage will be saved . . . 800.00  
\$ 4,655.00

Here we have provided four thousand and six hundred dollars to handle a cargo of two thousand tons.  
Coal at a flat rate of \$5.00 per ton.  
Freight at a flat rate of \$5.00 per ton.  
60 hours discharging.  
120 men employed.

One Cargo.  
4000 tons coal, \$5.00 . . . \$20,000.00  
4000 tons freight, \$5.00 . . . 20,000.00  
4000 tons duty, 70c. . . 2,800.00  
4000 tons cartage, \$1.60 . . . 6,400.00  
4000 tons insurance . . . 400.00  
4000 tons loss of weight, 40c. . . 1,600.00  
4000 tons shedding coal, 40c. . . 1,600.00  
(Wages 60 men.)  
4 days, 10 hours each, 70c. per hour, \$7.00 per day \$28.00 . . . 1,680.00  
2 nights, 7 to 12, 10 hours each, 5 hours, 85c. \$4.25

The above figures provide over nine thousand dollars to handle four thousand tons.  
Hon. Mr. Bishop has made a public statement in the Legislative Council that the figures quoted by me on coal are wrong. My figures I will leave to expert opinion and the judgment of the public. Coal has become a national question and affects the country and every family in St. John's. For months we have been paying a big price for dirt, dross and rubbish. There are three qualities of



Plug Smokers  
should demand

British Colonel

The Utmost  
in Plug Smoking



Imperial Tobacco Co.

### SILVERWARE!

Bread Trays  
Roll Trays  
Fruit or Confection Basket.  
Baking Dish  
Casserole  
Entree Dishes  
Soup Tureen  
Cake Dishes  
Cake Plates.

Bread Board  
Bon Bon  
Butter Dish  
Sandwich Trays  
Dessert Sets  
Trivets  
Waiters  
Marmalade  
Sugar Dish  
Spoon Holder  
Tea Sets

Also HOMES & EDWARDS' FLATWARE.  
The name of Homes & Edwards is a sure guarantee of "Quality".

D. A. McRAE, Jeweller.

### Household Notes.

If gravy is too salty, stir in a little coarse brown sugar.  
Rinse in a saucepan in cold water before heating milk in it.  
Honey, butter and nuts make an excellent sandwich filling.  
Sweet potatoes are good when candied with maple syrup.  
Children are often irritable merely from lack of sleep.  
Make hems in the tops of kiddie's socks and slip elastic through.  
Beefsteak pie may have a crust of small baking-powder biscuits.  
It is well to keep on hand in the larder a dish of cold corned beef.  
Try dipping the French-fried potatoes in oatmeal before frying.  
Nothing is a better stimulant to the appetite than a plate of soup.  
A satisfactory way to finish a floor is to paint it with linseed oil.  
An onion and orange salad is delicious served with French dressing.  
Line the heels of your slippers with velvet to save your silk stockings.  
Let sugar cookies cool in a covered earthen jar lined with a clean cloth.  
Bore a few holes in the bottom of an old cocoa tin and use as a flour dredger.  
If a sewing needle becomes blunt or hooked, rub it evenly on a sharpening stone.  
Keep a button bag near the electric washer for any buttons that are wrung off.

## Chorea—St. Vitus' Dance

When children's nerves become starved and exhausted their trouble usually takes the form of Chorea, St. Vitus' Dance or Convulsions.

Rapid growth—physiological changes—urgent school work and examinations mean a tremendous strain on the nervous system of the child who is naturally of a nervous temperament.

The child becomes fretful and irritable. Restless, wriggling movements of the limbs and face—inability to sit still—tendency to drop things from the hands tell of the development of these troubles.

Later, speech is affected and there is irregular twitching of

the muscles, squinting of the eyes and other indications of loss of control of the muscles.

Rest in bed in a bright airy room with cheerful companionship and the absence of anything to irritate or excite the nerves is the ideal condition for recovery.

Since the nervous system is completely starved and exhausted it is essential that Dr. Chase's Nerve Food should be used regularly and persistently to build up the depleted nerve cells.

Instead of dwelling on the merits of this well-known food cure we shall refer you to the letters quoted here which tell of actual results accomplished.

<b>St. Vitus Dance</b> Mrs. Wm. Matt, Cordova, Man., writes: "My little girl, ten years old, was not very well, and I noticed some rather odd ways about her. She used to act very strangely at times. I asked the doctor what could be the matter, and he said she had St. Vitus' Dance, to keep her quiet and out of school. He said treatments weren't any use for her. She was affected in this way for a year. I thought something ought to be done, so in looking over Dr. Chase's Almanac I read several testimonials from people who had used Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. I sent for six boxes, and started this treatment with my daughter. Before she had finished the first box I could see a great change in her, and by the time she had taken the six boxes, she was completely cured. She is real well now, and going to school every day."	<b>Twitching Nerves</b> Mrs. M. E. Robson, 170 Dublin St., Peterboro, Ont. writes: "When about the age of 14 or 15 my daughter was on the verge of nervous break-down. She had a very poor appetite, lost all her color, and at times had a twitching of the nerves in her limbs. I secured some of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food and gave her a treatment, using five or six boxes. The results were splendid, entirely curing her of her nervous trouble, and restoring her appetite. I find Dr. Chase's Nerve Food a splendid Spring tonic, and best results to be found by taking some of the Kidney-Liver Pills at the same time."	<b>St. Vitus' Dance</b> Mr. S. F. Flarity, Warton, Ont. writes: "My daughter, eleven years of age, was in a run down condition, and suffered from a nervousness which showed a tendency toward St. Vitus' Dance. I got a few boxes of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food for her, and by the time she had taken three boxes there was a big change in her. She is much stronger, and her system in general is built up. She has recovered from her nervous weakness, and you could not detect a trace of it now. I gladly recommend Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to anyone suffering from nervousness of any kind."	<b>Convulsions</b> Mrs. Xavier Albert, St. Francois, N. B. writes: "My daughter, Imelda, was troubled for four years with nervousness. Almost every night, she used to take nervous convulsions. We took her to a doctor, but he did not do her any good. Finally we began to use Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, and gradually the convulsions were less and less frequent, until they disappeared altogether. It was two years ago that she used the Nerve Food, and six boxes completely cured her. We are very grateful for what Dr. Chase's Nerve Food has done for her."
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## Dr. Chase's Nerve Food

50 cts. a box, all dealers or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Ltd., Toronto. The portrait and signature of A. W. Chase, M.D., are on every box of the genuine.

AT ALL DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS.  
GERALD S. DOYLE, St. John's, Distributing Agent.

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