

EXTRACTS from Report of Mr. Geoffrey Francis Monckton, M.E. Fellow of the Geological Society of London, who spent about four months on the property of the British Columbia Anthracite Syndicate on the Upper Skeena, B.C., in 1911.

"The property can be easily developed by railroads. It lies in the valley which is most convenient for a railroad from the G. T. P. on the lower Skeena to the Yukon, and can also be easily reached by a line following one of the branches of the Naas, reaching the sea either at Stewart or some other point on the Portland Canal, or else near the mouth of the Naas.

The Beirnes Creek passes are respectively 4,200 and 4,300 ft. and are about fifteen miles distant. The main parts of the property being at an elevation of about 3,600 ft., this would entail a grade against the load of rather less than 1 per cent for the first 15 miles, but for the remaining mileage to the sea there would be an average grade in favour of it of 32 ft. to the mile. The up grade being so short it would be easy to haul short trains up to the divide and having assembled them there to take very long trains thence to the sea with one locomotive, which would mean cheap hauling.

The strata present a regularity which is rarely found in association with anthracite outside of South Wales and Pennsylvania.

On account of the rise in the strata to the north east as shown in the sections, it will be possible to work an area on this property of approximately 12 square miles without machinery by the simple expedient of driving tunnels into the mountain a little above the level of the Skeena so as to intersect the Benoit and the other seams immediately below it in turn, and each of these seams can then be worked to the rise as the management may desire. This would mean a saving in capital of about \$600,000, as compared with working the property on the west side of the Skeena by means of shafts and would result in additional economy in the actual cost of mining.

The seams so far found on the property which are on Beirnes Creek, beginning with the top one, are the Benoit, Scott, Garneau, Choquette, Ross and the Pelletier.

(1). The BENOIT contains 5 ft. of clean coal with about 12 inches of shale near the top. I believe more coal will be found in the roof when it can be proved.