

of coal. This would admit an output of 10,000 tons per day, allowing 300 working days per year for over 6,000 years. This is entirely independent of the immense coal areas in Alberta and in other parts of British Columbia.

"We are at present prepared to enter into time contracts with the smelters of British Columbia to supply any quantities of coal or coke they may require; but so far as the local supply is concerned, its safety can be best assured by such development of the Crow's Nest mines as will be made possible by the building of the proposed line.

"Successful operation of the mines on a large scale would be impossible if our market were limited to British Columbia, and it were subject to the fluctuations we have experienced this last year.

"With an immense coal and coking industry in operation, turning out from six to ten thousand tons of coal a day, the British Columbia smelters now in operation could close down or open up without notice, as often as they might feel inclined, and the change would not be felt.