

good things with which nature has endowed us, develop them to the highest point and make all that we possibly can out of them. This policy has been forced upon us and as the years go by it will become more and more evident that we cannot escape from it.

It is not possible by any process to add to the value of coal and coke; they are finished articles as they leave the mines and the ovens, and it is our business to find the best possible market for them

**Coal and Coke  
are finished  
Products.**

after the home demand has been satisfied. That the British Columbia smelters or consumers of coal of any kind have reason to dread the building of the line in question we do not for a moment believe. The Company in its own interests, and the Government in the interests of the people of Canada generally will attend to that. The greater the production the more economically operations can be carried on. The coal and coke are said to be of such a superior quality as to overcome all the obstacles placed in the way of their importation by the Government of the United States, and the supply is practically inexhaustible. It is possible that an attempt may be made to secure an increase of the duty, but it is questionable whether the forces against such a course would not be stronger than those in favor of it. In any event, as Mr. Cox points out, there still remains the alternative of a great increase in the number of smelters on the Canadian side and the importation of ore from the United States.