

AMPLE COKE SUPPLY FOR BOUNDARY.

International Coal and Coke Co. Has 64,000,000 Tons of Coal.

ONE of the outgrowths of the shortage of the coke supply for Boundary smelters, experienced in the past, has been the formation of the International Coal and Coke Co., for the purpose of developing valuable coal deposits in the Crows Nest section. Within the last year or two all the Kootenay and Boundary smelters have been forced to close down for longer or shorter periods on account of irregularity of the fuel supply. After a time some of the officials of the Granby Co., the largest user of coke in this section, decided to control their own supply if possible, and formed the above-named company, after securing valuable coal measures at what is now the town of Coleman, three miles west of Blairmore, Alberta, and just across the boundary line of British Columbia.

This company has a capital of \$3,000,000, with the following officers: President, A. C. Flumerfelt; vice-president and treasurer, H. N. Galer; secretary, W. G. Graves. D. Shultz, C. A. Fowler and R. A. Paulson are also on the directorate. While the company is in no way connected with the Granby Co., some of the latter's officials are shareholders in the coal company, and to a certain extent both companies will work together, it being the intention to supply the Boundary smelters with coke, as far as possible, in preference to others.

There is no doubt whatever that the International Co. has now under development some of the most valuable measures of coal in that entire region, now so famous for its coal fields. In order that there should be no mistake about the measures they had acquired, the management of the International Coal Co. secured the opinion of one of the most eminent specialists in this line. Geo. S. Batton, of the engineering firm of Elliott & Batton, of Pittsburgh, Penn., made a thorough examination of the Coleman coal fields, and reported most favorably on them.

Some extracts from this report will be found of interest. Mr. Batton said:

"Your coal field near Blairmore, Alberta, is remarkable for the number and thickness of the veins it contains and for the fact that the outcrops are near the railway with enough bottom land between to permit of a good plant being built. Already six veins of workable thickness have been proven on the property, totaling in the neighborhood of fifty feet of clean coal. These veins run in a northerly and southerly direction through the property, and that they are regular and

falls to 300 feet above the railway at the tunnel you have started on Carbon Run. As the coal pitches at about 35 degrees, this will give you an average of 700 feet on the pitch and make about 14,000,000 tons here above water level. South of the tunnels mentioned to the end of the property, about three miles, the hill is higher, and a rough estimate gives an average of 2,000 feet on the veins, which would make about 50,000,000 tons, making a total in the five miles south of the railway of 64,000,000 tons above water level.

"As in all this country, your veins differ as to hardness, amount of ash and coking qualities, but all of them make good coke and lead me to unhesitatingly recommend any outlay that is necessary to erect and equip a modern plant.

"You can expect to find a coal with a uniform pitch between 35 and 45 degrees. This will permit of a very economical method of working the coal, viz., by chutes from the face of the breast to the wagons on the haulage way. You will thus effect a great saving, as it will avoid the expensive methods used by other people in the region to get their pit wagons to and from the mines to the heading, and it should enable you to do all your hauling in the mine by electricity; in fact, the conditions here should enable you to get out your coal as cheaply as it is possible to mine coal anywhere in the region; in fact, the physical conditions are such that you will be able to more than meet any competitors."

Acting upon the advice of Mr. Batton, President Flumerfelt last fall contracted for the entire supply of electrical and other equipment, including motors, generators, electric locomotives, etc.

It is understood that the initial equipment of the colliery for a production of 2,000 tons of coal daily will cost about \$150,000. This also includes the erection of the initial battery of 104 coke ovens, which are now in process of building, and which number will be more than doubled later,



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consistent is shown, first by the conglomerate rock which overlies them and which, being very hard, is well defined on the surface, and by the fact that they are found in good shape wherever we have tested for them.

"As to the amount of coal below the water level, you are only limited by the depth you care to go below water level. Starting at the railroad and going south, the outcrop begins at water level near the railway and gradually rises to an elevation of 700 feet, then