

EXTRACTS from Report of James McEvoy, Geologist and Mining Engineer, Member of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, London, Eng, formerly Member of the Staff of the Geological Survey of Ottawa, on the property of the British Columbia Anthracite Syndicate, on the Upper Skeena River, B. C.

Toronto, Nov. 21st, 1911,

To The B. C. Anthracite Syndicate of Quebec,

DEAR SIRs:—

“Herewith I transmit to you my report on your claims on the West Fork of the Skeena River about Ground Hog Mountain.

Questions such as the cost of coal and markets have not been dealt with, as these are always speculative and especially so in the case of a new field.

I have no doubt, however, but that a large market can be found for this coal and at good prices. The domestic market will be the most important at first and in this connection as the coal is practically smokeless, and as it will not make dust and dirt all over a house in the way the soft coals of the West invariably do, it will be self-advertising.

The total cost of mining given by Mr. Campbell-Johnston, at \$2.14 is if anything rather high, at least for the first four or five years. However, time alone will tell exactly, as there are always special problems of mining in each individual colliery.

I would suggest that the coal should not be sold for less than \$4.00 per ton 2,000 lbs. F. O. B. the mine. This is mentioned because our experience has shown that the most common mistake made in starting new collieries in the West has been to sell the coal at too low a figure.

Care should be taken to have proper screening and picking table facilities installed before the coal is placed upon the market so that it may have a good name from the start.

The cost of a plant to operate when fully equipped, will be about \$1,500,000., but the expenditure of this amount will spread over three or four years. In fact it would be wise to have the first tippie a temporary home-made one, so that experience may show just what is required for a permanent structure.