

C. M. CAMPBELL
MINING ENGINEER

502 Pacific Bldg.
Vancouver, B.C.
July 12th 1938.

Dr. L. W. Douglas,
Principal, McGill University,
Montreal,

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is an article dealing with the recent findings of the Macdonald Commission in which reference is made to the MCGILL SYMPOSIUM on coal published by the University in 1931.

Writers in the SYMPOSIUM, Moore and Thomson, pass on information to the effect that Canada has in reserve 1234 billion tons. These are represented as approximate figures when the fact is that they have been shown to be ridiculously absurd. On the strength of resources stated to be inconceivably great, such as our coal resources, Canada has spent huge sums. Now these resources cannot be found and we are in trouble.

In 1921 I was assigned to a job as manager of a Vancouver Island colliery. I found indications of very serious shortage in the Survey coal reserve figures, stated to be 5793 million tons for the Island, and reported the matter to Ottawa. The matter was checked up by MacKenzie, the Vancouver representative for the Survey, and he cut the figure to 52 million tons, only half recoverable. Following this Alberta checked its figures and the Evans report of 1925 cut the Survey figure from 1075 billion tons to 28 billion tons. This information was made public prior to the publication of the SYMPOSIUM. Its effect on the total for Canada will be obvious. The later Barlow report cut the Alberta figure still further to 20 billion tons.