

ties. I should be sorry, however, if for this reason there were any relaxation in the effort to produce gold. At no time has this country so much required the largest possible production of gold as at the present. Next to food and ammunition, gold is one of the most needed war essentials. The man or the community that maintains or increases the production of gold in the face of difficulty and discouragement is performing a patriotic service no less than the more obvious, but not more useful, services that are more in the public eye."

**THE COAL SITUATION IN WESTERN CANADA.**

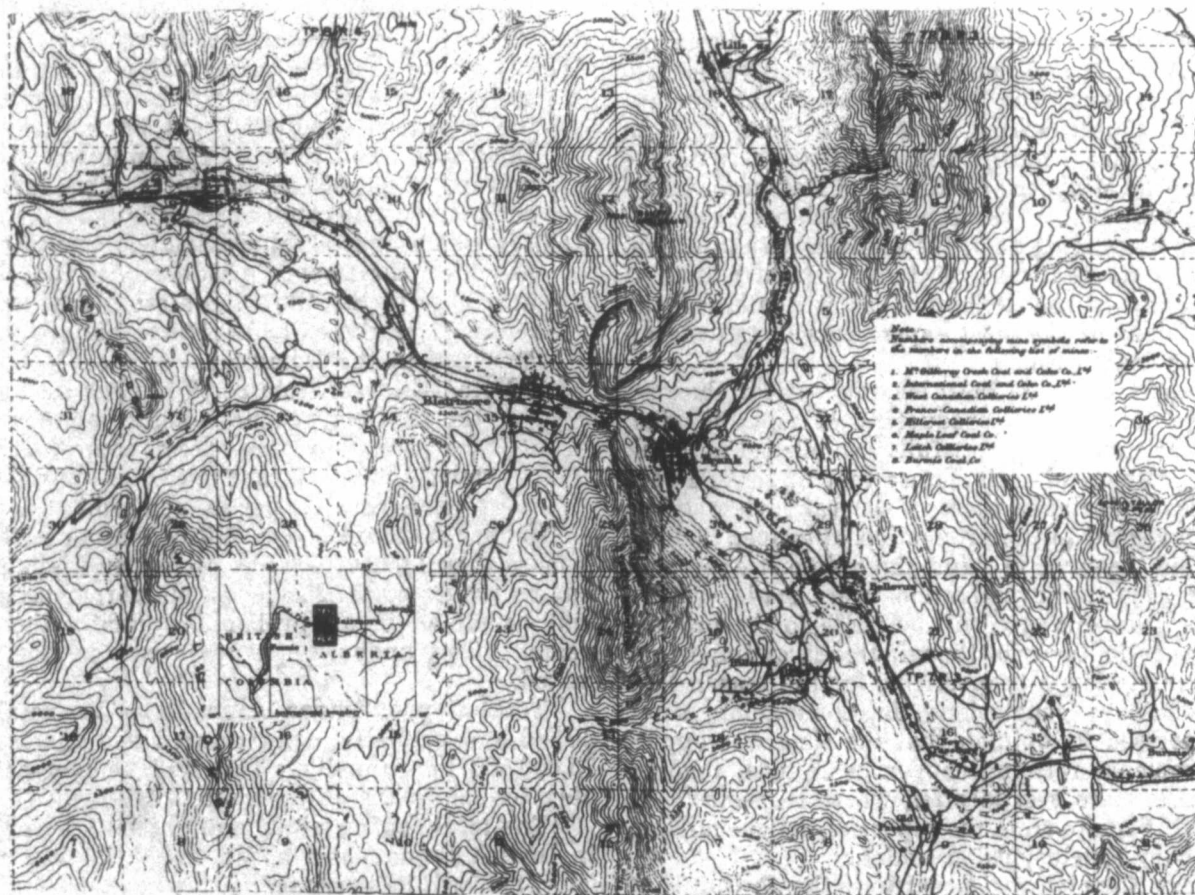
Mr. Grant Hall, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., has issued the following statement in regard to the coal situation in Western Canada:

"The fuel controllers say that the prospects for a supply of anthracite coal is no different from a few

tiful; when there was no abnormal demand for it for extraordinary uses; when there was no doubt of the supply from the United States. Now all precedents have been wiped out and I think the people owe it to themselves to seriously consider the situation and get in their supply, thus relieving the tension on railways and mine owners, but most of all on themselves."

**THE BLAIRMORE COAL AREA, ALBERTA.**

Alberta possesses by far the most extensive coal areas of any province of Canada—in fact, the greater part of the south-eastern section of the province seems to be underlain by coal. D. B. Dowling has estimated the known and mineable coal areas at not less than 30,000 square miles. On the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains the coals vary in character from bituminous coking and non-coking coals to anthracite. There is comparatively little anthracite; but much good bituminous coal.



The Blairmore Coal Area, Crownsnest District, Western Alberta

months ago and with this in view it seems to me imperative that consumers of coal should heed the warning. Speaking strictly from a railway point of view I would like to remind the people that prospects are very good, taking the time of year into consideration, for a good crop and you know how important it is that the crop be moved on time. Even a normal grain crop takes all the men and equipment that can be mustered when men are plentiful and with the scarcity that now exists it can easily be computed how impossible it will be to move both grain and coal in the same direction and give satisfaction to both.

"There have been times in the past when this company has helped out the domestic coal situation in the West by allowing dealers and others in time of severe weather to use from our stocks on hand, but I would like to remind all concerned that such action was in the days when coal was what one might well call plen-

The Geological Survey, Ottawa, has just published a topographical map of the Blairmore area. We reproduce part of it on this page on a much reduced scale. The location of the area near the Alberta-British Columbia boundary is shown on the small inserted map at the left.

This area is part of the Crownsnest Pass coal area, part of which is in British Columbia. It is generally referred to as the Crownsnest Pass District, Alberta. The mines operating here produced during 1917, 1,193,313 tons of coal. Mr. John Stirling, chief inspector of mines of Alberta, says that if these mines had been in operation fairly steadily, without increasing the present amount of development or men employed, the output might have been 1,779,888. If Western Canada needs coal, this area can supply much larger quantities than the demand last year warranted.