

EVANS URGES MORE DEVELOPMENT FOR N.B. COAL INDUSTRY

Says Minto Mines Employ 600 With \$1,000,000 Payroll a Year

OUTPUT IS 250,000 TONS IN 12 MONTHS

Production of Pits Could Be Much Increased if Public Used This Fuel

BY JOHN J. DUNLOP

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FREDERICTON, N. B., April 12—More extended development of the coal industry in New Brunswick was advocated by W. Benton Evans, government member for Queens county, in his maiden speech in the house this evening, continuing the budget debate.

Mr. Evans declared the people of the province did not generally realize the importance of the coal industry at Minto, which, he said, gave employment to 600 men directly with an annual payroll of \$1,000,000 and an output of 250,000 tons a year.

The output there, he declared, could be greatly increased if the people would use the coal produced in their own province. It was not claimed that this was a first-class quality but it was held to be a good average bituminous coal which gave good results when used with equipment adapted to its use.

Touching on prohibition Mr. Evans declared for enforcement of the law. The chief inspector, he asserted, had a difficult job on his hands.

EVANS SPEAKS. Mr. Evans, continuing the debate, said that the honorable leader of the Opposition when addressing the House early in the session had mentioned the coal industry in the race and religion propaganda which he had been carrying on during the recent election campaign.

It was his (Evans's) humble opinion that in doing so he (Veniot) was guilty of the very thing which he condemned in others, and he (Evans) spoke of it himself only because the honorable member had written a letter which he claimed had been written by a gentleman in the county of Queens, and which contained the names of his colleagues and himself. It was evidently intended that the general public should infer that they had inspired this and other alleged letters and propaganda.

QUESTIONS VENIOT. He wished to ask the honorable leader of the Opposition how this letter had come into his (Veniot's) possession, if he had any proof whatever that this letter was genuine, any proof that it was actually written by the man whose name was attached to it.

DOUBLE PAYMENT. It was the same Mr. McCrea who was brought before the Public Accounts Committee in 1922 and was found to have authorized double payments for certain road work. Also he was considered worth watching by all the officials connected with the Department of Public Works who had had any experience with accounts sent in by him.

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gineers McCrea had had the supervision work costing over \$85,000 since that time. Last July McCrea had sent in pay sheets amounting to over \$8,000.

WHY MONEY WAS SPENT. The honorable leader of the Opposition stated in his speech last week that a large amount of money had been expended on the roads in Queens last fall in order to elect Mr. George B. Jones. He (Evans) wished to say that the money which was spent in that county at that time was necessary to complete the work which had been started by the former government, and to make the roads passable so that anyone could get out to vote.

SUGGESTION FOR HYDRO. He hoped the present honorable chairman of the hydro commission would keep this in mind when looking for new sources of power. He had already mentioned that the coal produced at Minto was of the bituminous variety, perhaps more commonly known as soft coal, which has the objectionable feature of all such coals, particularly when used for domestic purposes, that was the large volume of smoke given off. For that reason anthracite or hard coal, was preferred and used by so many.

MINTO COAL INDUSTRY. The honorable member for Sunbury when he spoke recently mentioned the coal industry at Minto. As part of this coal mining district was in the county of Queens, represented by his colleague and himself, he also wished to deal briefly with its needs and possibilities.

INTERESTED IN COKE MAKING. "Public interest in the manufacture of domestic coke is rapidly developing, and it is earnestly to be hoped that capitalists assured of fair returns on their investment and the successful results to the country as a whole, will assist financially in the erection of coke ovens, and support an industry which appears to be the best solution of the various problems that now confronts the acute fuel area."

TO KEEP PLANT GOING. Continuing Mr. Evans said: "As to our reserves of coal in this province, they were apparently no doubt as to there being sufficient to keep such a plant as has been mentioned in operation for years to come, as well as supply the market already being served by the Minto district."

OFFICIAL REPORT. FREDERICTON, April 12—The House met at 8.45 p.m. The following bills were read a third time: A bill fixing the assessment of the Wilson Box Company Limited, regarding Woodstock debentures, regarding Frederick debentures, an agreement between the New Brunswick Power Company and the City of Saint John, incorporating the trustees of the U. N. B. endowment fund, and amending the Municipalities Act.

STEAM STANDBY. Some time ago the chairman of the hydro commission under the old government made the announcement through the press that it was probable that a steam standby would have to be built to supplement Musquash. The possible sites for such a plant were given as Norton, Moncton or Sackville. Evidently locating this plant at Minto was not thought of, but he supposed one could hardly expect that a commission that would put a hydro plant where there was not sufficient water, would do anything else than put a steam plant where there was no coal.

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daughters, Mrs. Charles Warren and Miss Anna McCarthy; two brothers, Dennis and Thomas McCarthy, and one sister, Miss Anna McCarthy; also seven grandchildren. The funeral will take place from his late residence on Wednesday morning at 8.45 o'clock to the St. John the Baptist church for high mass of requiem.

Deaths

Charles McCarthy

The death of Charles McCarthy, a well known citizen, occurred yesterday at his residence, 266 Pitt street. He leaves to mourn, besides his wife, two sons, Jeremiah and Thomas; two

\$200 FINE FOR SALE OF BEER TOO STRONG

George Baxter appeared in the police court yesterday afternoon and was fined \$200 for selling overstrength beer. Reports were made in the morning against four other beer shop proprietors and these cases will be heard in court later.

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