

him to produce more coal than there is a demand for. As a result, the coal mines of Alberta are shut down for from six to eight months each year. The Canadian people will not buy their winter's coal supply during the previous summer. Why should they unless there is some advantage in doing so. The Red Deer Valley Coal Operators' Association have taken note of this, and are offering a discount on summer purchases as follows: May shipments, 4 per cent; June shipments, 3 per cent; July shipments, 2 per cent. This is to the consumer's advantage, and he is entitled to the discount through his dealer. This feature of discounts it is understood has already produced very satisfactory results.

If the people of Western Canada can be persuaded to order their coal ahead of time, and thus give the operators plenty of orders to work upon, the mines could be operated for a longer period each year. This would mean that the cost of production would come down. It is obvious that the cost per ton would be less if the period and quantity of production were increased. So the first step towards righting the situation is for the citizens to order early and often, and to insist on Canadian coal when ordering.

Another factor in the cost of production is the cost of transportation. The mineowners of Alberta are alive to this phase of the situation also, but their efforts towards a reduction of freight rates have met with a temporary setback. The Railway Commission has refused to order a special summer freight rate on Alberta coal, holding that pres-

ent rates are not unreasonable, and that it has no jurisdiction to take into account any consideration other than the reasonableness of rates. If this is the case, the next move must be made in the Dominion Parliament, which presumably has power to deal with such questions.

A Few Plain Facts

Great Britain owes her position in the world of commerce to the enormous coal resources which she possesses. Her coal has been used as the magnet which drew to her shores the buyers of all nations. Her ability to compete in the world's markets and beat her competitors to a standstill resulted from her cheap and adequate fuel resources. Cheap fuel is an essential factor in industrial progress.

Canada aims to be an industrial, as well as an agricultural country. Alberta coal will help us to achieve industrial success. We can never be truly successful in the world of commerce while we depend on the United States for the greater portion of our fuel supply. However willing our American cousins may be to furnish us with fuel the time may come when they will be unable to do so. We came very near to that point last winter during the big coal miner strike a few months ago. Aside from industrial causes, such as strikes and the possibility of an embargo there is a natural cause which will eventually prevent us from bringing anthracite coal from the United States. Hard coal deposits are limited in America, and the time is not far distant when the supply will be seriously reduced, which will inevitably result in an increase in cost. During the past few years the



Pick-mining, showing the actual coal seam in an Alberta mine.

cost of anthracite has increased considerably, and there is every indication of further increases.

The very marked exodus of foreigners from the U.S. mining districts during the past year, the periodical strikes of one kind or another which affect coal production and transportation directly or indirectly, and the very serious shortage in railroad equipment—all of these factors combine to place the Canadian who depends upon United States producers for his coal in a very precarious position.

A National Problem

The fuel problem is a national one—not a provincial one. There are two outstanding reasons why Canadians should use Canadian coal. The first and foremost one is that we as a nation cannot afford to be dependent upon any other nation, no matter how friendly that nation may be, for an adequate fuel supply, particularly when we have untouched fuel resources of our own which could and should be developed with the money which is being sent out of the country. The second reason is a very popular one just now. Buy Canadian products and get a full dollar in value for every dollar you spend.

If more Alberta coal is bought by the Canadian people, the Alberta mines can be operated more consistently, and the cost of production will be reduced. The Canadian government should give reduced freight rates on summer shipments of Alberta coal, and thus reduce the cost to the consumer and alleviate the car shortage which becomes so pronounced during the fall and winter months when heavy shipments of both grain and coal overburden our transportation facilities.

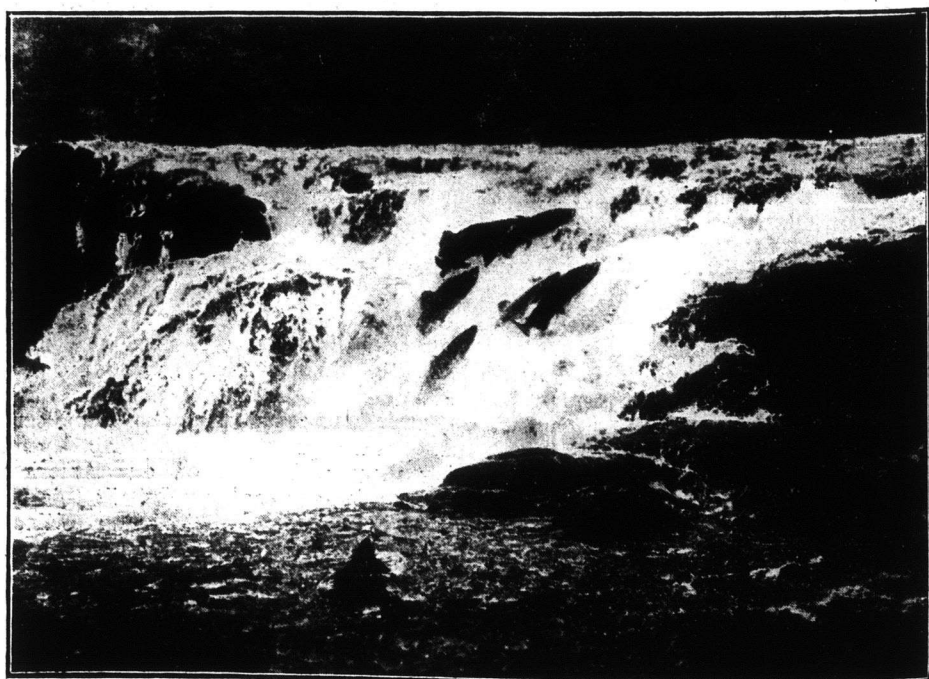
The consumer should order early, and thus enable the dealer to secure adequate supplies before winter sets in. Alberta mine operators have already tackled the storage problem, and have secured extensive storage facilities in Winnipeg during the past few weeks. The consumer should be shown how to

use Alberta coal to the best advantage, and last, but by no means least, Mr. Canadian Citizen should be sufficiently interested in his country's welfare to give his own fuel producers a fair trial. Use Canadian money to buy Canadian coal.

SALMON'S WONDERFUL FEAT—ASCENDS 15-FOOT WATERFALL

By Francis Dickie

The Pacific Coast salmon is the most remarkable and most mysterious fish that man has to do with. The salmon come from the ocean in the spring and summer and until late in the month of September, each of the six different species having a different time to run, and go up the fresh water streams and rivers of the Pacific Coast of North America, spawning in the sand in the shallows of the rivers often a hundred miles from the sea. The hatched salmon when about ten weeks old go out to sea, and for four years no man knows where they stay. At the end of this time they return to spawn in the very streams where they were born, and die, as their parents did before them. Salmon of the same age, vary in size. In getting to the spawning grounds they perform feats that, unless seen by the human eye, are unbelievable. Smaller streams are often entirely blocked with logs and branches. Over such obstacles as high as six feet the salmon jump. Small waterfalls they also leap over. Higher ones up to fifteen feet they swim up. On reaching a waterfall too high to jump, the salmon swims around the foot of the fall for a time, studying the best place of attack, then, floats down stream a dozen yards or so, and comes charging back at great speed, the momentum thus gained aiding it in its first dash up the fall; and up the salmon go, in defiance of the law of gravity, and in spite of the certainly superior force of the down-pouring water. The fish swim up where the fall is heaviest. The picture tells more than volumes of words could convey.



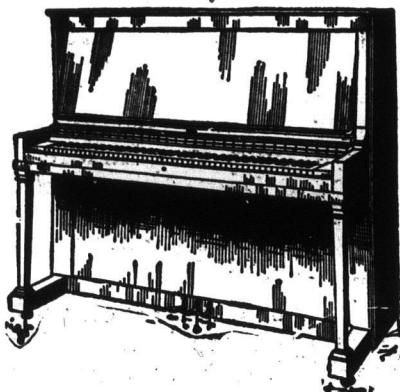
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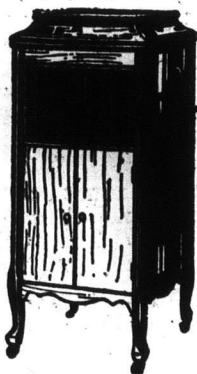
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