

Government aid.—I have also been asked about Government aid for the building of a coke plant. I believe this would be advisable for the first plant at least, until such an industry became established, but I do think that such aid should be preferably given to a company who would use Canadian coal.

The Chairman stated during the hearing of Mr. Blauvelt that I would throw some light on the question of stamping or compressing coal for improving the quality of coke. This practice has been carried on in many plants in Europe where the ovens are wide and the heats relatively low. It has also been tried out in this country at the Lackawanna Steel Co. in Buffalo and at the Dominion Iron & Steel Co. at Sydney, but in neither case was the expense found to be justifiable. American practice has been to design the ovens so that the required heat treatment may be given to each particular coal. By this means a high grade metallurgical coke is now being produced from some of the poorer grades of coal, e.g. in Illinois, which were previously regarded as valueless from a coking standpoint.

The quality of coke produced by compression of the coal charge is distinctly inferior to that produced by proper oven design and heat treatment both for metallurgical and domestic use.

The Hon. Mr. Laird asked Mr. Blauvelt about the practicability of making coke from Canadian coals. So far as Nova Scotia coals are concerned, the statement that the Nova Scotia Steel Co. and the Dominion Iron & Steel Co. have been running their blast furnaces ever since they were built on coke made from 100 per cent local coal and the success that has attended the introduction of the same coke for domestic use, should be sufficient answer.

So far as the western part of Canada is concerned, there are many good coking coals. In "An Investigation of the Coals of Canada," issued by the Department of Mines in 1912, is a list of coals which were tested for their coking qualities on the plant of the Dominion Iron & Steel Co. and many of them were found to be of high quality for that purpose.

Room No. 534,

OTTAWA, Thursday, May 17, 1923.

The Special Committee of the Senate met at 11 a.m. Hon. Mr. McLennan in the Chair.

EDWIN P. MALLORY, Director of the Bureau of Statistics, Canadian National Railways, Montreal, called and examined.

By the Chairman:

Q. Mr. Mallory is the Director, Bureau of Statistics of the Canadian National Railways. Now, in regard to tables or anything of that kind that you have given to the other Committee, it is unnecessary for us to reprint them with our evidence. The evidence taken by the Committee of the House of Commons will of course be available to us. The purpose was rather to supplement that. Is there anything that has occurred to you as being desirable to tell us, or that we might inquire about?—A. Nothing further has occurred to me with regard to our estimate of the cost of handling the Alberta coal to Toronto—the \$9 rate.

Q. As I understand it, that \$9 rate took in the whole Alberta field.—A. It is the average of the Alberta fields to Toronto.

Q. You would vary that somewhat from mine to mine?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. We have had an application from Saskatchewan people. Would you give them the same rate, pro rata?—A. Well, sir, I could not say as to that.

[Mr. E. P. Mallory.]