

Q. Certainly, but the fuel cannot only be reckoned as a percentage cost in the manufacture or fabrication of the product. Gas must be taken into account in any place where there are industries, because they have come to and been attracted by gas.—A. But to a very limited extent.

Q. Well, I have given you a couple of examples. Greenhouses are another.—A. Medicine Hat had free gas for a while for industries locating there, so I am told.

Q. I think they charged a cent a thousand cubic feet, I do not think it was ever free. I remember when they burned it in their street lamps all day because it was cheaper to leave it burning than it was to turn it off. There is no question about that. I have seen it for years and years. Now, I leave the matter of industry because I see we are approaching the zero hour which, of course, our vice-chairman knows nothing about. Now, about population, I assume you, like all other persons, have made population studies of these markets?—A. Yes.

Q. I want to come back to something and this is the only time I am referring to anything referred to by anybody else. How many services do you contemplate in Vancouver?—A. I have not got the figures with me. We took those figures from the British Columbia Electric Company.

Q. Do you know how many services they have now?—A. I cannot remember.

Q. They have plants there manufacturing gas in Vancouver, that is the gas they are presently using, and, incidentally, let me get another boost in here for Alberta: the manufactured gas does not even compare with the B.T.U.'s contained in the natural gas we are all talking about here.—A. Just half.

Q. Just half, yes, and we had some discussion with respect to coal. Now, on a comparative basis, comparing natural gas with any other fuel, the comparison can only be made on the basis of the B.T.U. content in the fuel, that is to say, British thermal units?—A. No, there can be other comparisons, natural gas having great advantages in addition, in many cases, over and above its B.T.U. value.

Q. I mean being able to move it about and so on, and the cleanliness.—A. And you can control the heat and various other things.

Q. But I mean for the creation of heat, insofar as using it by way of heating. The comparison I am referring to is the comparison by B.T.U.'s, comparing it with coal or sawdust or any other fuel?—A. Yes.

Q. I want to come back to see if you can give me some idea of the number of gas services you contemplate in British Columbia, and greater Vancouver, because it strikes me that eleven and a half billion, using the minimum of three billion at Trail, is so strikingly small. You are contemplating sending into greater Vancouver less gas than is used today domestically only in the city of Calgary. Do you realize that?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you not think the British Columbia Electric Company had better get out and sell some gas if your project is going to get anywhere?—A. I figure they will and we are figuring on an ultimate load a great deal more than that. We were taking the figures from the British Columbia Electric Company.

Q. Is that the figure at the end of five years? I mean you figure those things in five year periods do you not?—A. Yes.

Q. But the services that you have now considered are the services at the present time in British Columbia?—A. No, this is based on additions that will come in when natural gas comes into Vancouver.

Q. You did not care much about that area, with the huge area of Vancouver where, I think, the population was 500,000 in the census a month ago. Would you say they would take less gas than the little city of Calgary from which I come?—A. They use a lot of gas on a cold day in Calgary, and the houses are heated with gas.

Q. We have got a saturation point.—A. You have a rate of saturation and a cold climate.