

...UME 16 No. 44
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such release as, apparently, he was granted. I think it is not unreasonable that Bishop Budka should not have gone any further to determine whether or not Col. Lindsay would have such authority. So that while Bishop Budka did not report as the regulations required, yet he had a very good reason, I think, in not doing so, and he was not wilfully committing any breach of the regulations and I could not order his internment and will have to release him from the charge.

"As far as the other matters are concerned I do not know how much I should say about them. I am quite satisfied that the counsel for the complainants had put before him at one time some rather serious charges against Bishop Budka and that he was quite conscientious in framing the charges as they were, but at the hearing not a tittle of evidence was produced against the Bishop to warrant such charges having been made, in fact, the only evidence that was adduced was by the Bishop and some of his own witnesses, who, instead of charging the Bishop with disloyalty and so on, testified that his conduct was to be approved. I do not think it is necessary to say anything more on these charges that were perhaps serious, but why those who made the charges did not come forward and attempt to substantiate them, I do not know. So far as the investigation before me was concerned there was no ground shown why there should be any doubt cast upon Bishop Budka's loyalty to Canada."

It is to be sincerely hoped that these proceedings and the judgment rendered thereon, will bring to an end, once and for all time, the cruel campaign of misrepresentation which has been relentlessly waged against Bishop Budka during the past five years. It will perhaps be too much to expect that those who have in the past been responsible for originating the many slanderous statements concerning him, will treat him honestly and fairly in the future. Animositities, based upon religious prejudice, jealousy and personal ambition, are not easily eradicated. Heretofore the traducers have relied (and not in vain) for their success upon a sensational press and upon a thoughtless public, who have been all too ready to believe ill of one, whom they have not tried to know or understand, and with whom they have not cared to sympathize. It is to be hoped that the press and its readers, including some of our Winnipeg politicians, will learn a lesson from this experience, will in the future be honest at least with themselves, if not with Bishop Budka, and will refuse to continue to be the dupes of the self-seeking designs of his Ukrainian defamers.

It has indeed been a fortunate circumstance for Canada, and for its Ukrainian citizens in particular, that the latter have enjoyed during the critical and strenuous period of the war, a leadership so loyal and so wise as that accorded by Bishop Budka. The Pioneer Bishop of his diocese, he has met with all the discouraging difficulties which those who lead the way so often have to encounter, suspicion, indifference, dissension, intolerance, lack of assistants, and want of funds. He has given without stint, in time, energy, and ability, in order that his people may remain true children of the Church, and may become worthy citizens of their adopted country. He is planting, that those who come after him may reap; his hopes rest, not so much in the present adult generation, as in their children. He has proven himself indefatigable in implanting in the minds of the rising generation, a deep and lasting love for Canada, the land of their birth, an appreciation of the value of education, and an understanding of the

necessity of a thorough knowledge of English, so that in the years to come, his people will occupy no secondary place in Canadian citizenship. And as he has planned and worked, so has he lived, an honest, upright, loyal, true Catholic citizen of Canada. He has been misunderstood because he and his work have not been known. When our Canadian people come to a full understanding on how well, in the interests of Canada, Bishop Budka has builded during all the time his loyalty has been suspected, then, only, will they be able to appreciate his true worth. In the meantime he continues to sacrifice every personal comfort and interest, for the good of others.

—Northwest Review, Winnipeg.

Lignite Briquette Making Will Soon Be Undertaken

The Lignite Utilization Board has left for Montreal after completing their investigations at Estevan and other points in the lignite coal area of southeastern Saskatchewan and southwestern Manitoba and spending some time with members of the Provincial Government. Announcement of the location of a site for the plant to manufacture briquettes from the lignite deposits in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, will be made shortly.

R. A. Ross, chairman of the Lignite Utilization Board, stated before leaving for the east that the factors determining the choice of a site are purely economic, the questions of proximity to fuel resources, to an abundant water supply, shipping and housing facilities all having to be given due consideration.

"We expect to come to a decision almost immediately," he said, "except two or three points we still have to discuss, we have now practically all the information we require. We hope to have the contracts let for the erection of the plant by April 1st and to have the plant in operation making briquettes by next August."

"It must not be forgotten that this plant will be purely a demonstration plant as the capacity will be only 30,000 tons of briquettes a year. It would require 300 plants of that capacity to manufacture enough briquettes to take the place of the anthracite coal now being imported into Canada.

"Canada has the second largest coal holdings of any country in the world, yet we are still dependent upon the United States for about half of our coal. This is largely due to the fact that our lignite coals are difficult to transport without heavy loss from slacking and from crushing and its friable nature also causes a large loss in mining.

"Our experiments have now reached the point where we have got a process for carbonising and briquetting lignite which gives us a commercial product at a commercial price from lignite coal, practically equal in heating value to anthracite coal."

"Providing that the demonstrating plant proves successful, will the Government proceed to manufacture briquettes on a large scale, or will the process be made public and handed over to the coal producers?" Mr. Ross was asked.

Mr. Ross said that he could not tell what the Government's policy might be, but he believed that the miners themselves would go into the business, manufacturing briquettes from the slack with a certain proportion of run of mine, enabling them to equalise production throughout the year and to ship and store the product without any risk of deterioration.

"We have subjected our briquettes to the most rigid tests,"

he said, "with completely satisfactory results. We have soaked these briquettes in water. Put them in cold storage, subjected them to intense cold, thawed them out and frozen them again, and they stood all these tests. They can be piled outside without any protection without deteriorating."

"These briquettes, while made of lignite, are simply anthracite, because the whole composition of the coal has been changed. It takes two tons of lignite coals to make one ton of briquettes. We drive off the gases which make lignite coals so smoky and sooty, we evaporate all the water, and the completed product can be shipped anywhere and used for any purpose for which anthracite coal would be used."

Mr. Ross was asked if there would be any economic loss in driving off the gas and said that this gas would probably be all used in the process of manufacturing the briquettes, and that the by-products would also be of value. "We could secure a much larger quantity of these by-products if it were not that we want to leave as many heat units as possible in the coal."

"The demonstration plant we are erecting will be the smallest commercial plant which could be constructed and operated on a practical basis, and naturally this will mean that the manufacturing costs will be heavier than in a larger plant. Personally, I would like to see this plant maintained as an experimental plant, where briquetting experiments could be carried out with all the coals in Canada, and the coal mine operators of Canada making briquettes at the different mines, becoming manufacturers as well as miners.

"Our greatest difficulty has been in securing a satisfactory binder at a low enough price and we have experimented with a large number and secured a vast amount of information, and are now in a position where we cannot be held up for any one binder, as we have several materials which have given very good results. One is sulphite pitch, a waste product from our pulp mills, lignite tar from the lignite itself is the other, and we have found that a very good binder could be made from spoiled flour."

"We expect to manufacture these lignite briquettes so that they will cost less than anthracite coal cost before the war. The cost will be higher naturally further away from the place of manufacture, but we expect to improve our methods so that the cost can be reduced as these lignite briquettes are manufactured on a larger scale."

The Lignite Utilization Board entered upon its work a little over a year ago and was organized according to an agreement between the Governments of Saskatchewan and Manitoba and the Dominion Government, the operations of the Board being financed by the three Governments, the Dominion Government appropriating \$200,000 and the Saskatchewan and Manitoba Governments appropriating \$100,000 each for the purpose. Investigations have been carried on for some years by the Saskatchewan Government with a view toward better methods of utilizing lignite, and the prospects of a solution of the problem of successfully briquetting the vast lignite deposits, amounting to billions of tons, in the southern part of the province are exceedingly gratifying to the Government as well as the people of Saskatchewan.

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