

Coking Plants.

It was recommended by the Duncan Commission that the report of the Dominion Fuel Board in respect to coking plants, as submitted to a Parliamentary Committee in 1926, be carried out. This report provided that a subsidy of 3 per cent per year should be paid to coking plants erected for the purpose of using Canadian coal, and that 3 per cent was to cover a period of 15 years.

The legislation introduced by the Dominion Government for the encouragement of coking plants went beyond the recommendation of the Duncan Commission and provided for a subsidy of 4 per cent to private companies as against the 3 per cent recommended by the Dominion Fuel Board, and 5 per cent to municipal corporations, and to meet the contention that Canadian coal was not suitable for coking purposes provided that this subsidy should permit of the use of 30 per cent of American coal, if found necessary, in order to make the policy a success. As an indication of the desire of the Government to give every possible encouragement to the development of coking plants it should be pointed out that during the present year Halifax has been granted the sum of \$6,200 for this purpose, and a coking plant has been started in Quebec City. In addition to this, \$10,000 has been placed in the estimates of the present year for a test of Nova Scotia coal for coking in the big LaSalle coking plant at Montreal.

Bounties on Canadian Coal used in the Manufacture of Steel.

It was recommended by the Duncan Commission that a bonus should be given in respect of steel when Canadian coal is used in its manufacture and that the bonus should be calculated on the basis of the present drawback for every ton of coal used in such manufacture. Action upon this recommendation was deferred pending a reorganization of the British Empire Steel Corporation and hearings before the Tariff