

is that in Alberta there is more coal than there are people to burn it. When you boil the matter all down, there is the whole trouble. New coal mines are being discovered and new coal fields opened, and the trouble is that there are not enough people.

Q. Does not that largely apply to bituminous coal—steam coal?—A. It also applies to the bituminous coal, with the exception that in the field west of the Crow's Nest—in the Crow's Nest field, where the bituminous coal is produced, it is also a coking coal. Well, we buy a lot of that coal ourselves. It is a clean coal, and the screenings are used to make coke, of which our Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company burns a great deal.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Can you tell us about how much of that coke is burned out there?—A. No, I could not.

Q. But it is a very considerable quantity?—A. Oh, yes. You see, unless these people had the means of coking their screenings they could not furnish us with cleaned lump.

Q. That is, in the Crow's Nest.—A. Then we have at Canmore, of course, a very high class of bituminous coal, with a very high fixed carbon.

Q. If I remember correctly, that Canmore coal runs very close to a true anthracite. It goes over 80 per cent in fixed carbon, does it not?—A. It goes very high. I have the Government Report on the Canmore coal.

*By Hon. Mr. Laird:*

Q. Do I understand that your Banff coal property was closed down for lack of business? Was that the reason?—A. Yes, that is largely the reason.

Q. If you had a larger output would you open it?—A. You see, that coal, Senator, breaks up a great deal and we have to briquette the product, there is such a large percentage of the coal that is broken in mining, and there is such a large percentage of screenings, that unless we find some means of disposing of those screenings by briquetting, it is not profitable. It made a very excellent briquette, but the cost of briquetting it was very high. There are no binders right out there, that we can discover. If we had in our coking field by-product ovens that would give us the tar, for instance.—

*By the Chairman:*

Q. They coke out there in beehives?—A. In beehives, yes. The trouble there, Mr. Chairman, is this. Of course, as you know, the principal product is gas.

Q. Yes.—A. We have nobody to consume that kind of gas. You will not turn the Beehive oven into an expensive process coking plant when you have practically to waste all the gas.

*By Hon. Mr. Webster:*

Q. While it may be unprofitable to work at the present time, Mr. Lanigan, yet in case of emergency or fuel crisis in the country it could always be worked?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. Or used to help out. Could it not?—A. Quite right, Senator. All the coal that cannot be disposed of in Alberta, whether it is at Bankhead or at other places, is a potential asset in the earth, for the future. Undoubtedly that country will want power some day. The coal is there if the country wants it, and it is a potential asset just where it is. But the whole trouble just now is that we have no place to consume it.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. It is our ultimate reserve of coal for all time?—A. Yes.

[Mr. W. B. Lanigan.]