

Passage, and places like that; the small towns and even the small straggling fishing villages use it because it is a rarity to find a furnace. They heat by means of a base burner in the main hall, and the chimney goes up through, and there is a drum on it, and in the bedroom there is another drum, and for these stoves they must have a non-caking fuel.

Q. Might not the reason be to avoid the capital expense of putting a furnace in?—A. Possibly so.

By the Chairman:

Q. And there are schooners going backwards and forwards?—A. Last winter they were selling some hard coal for as low as \$13.50.

By Hon. Mr. Webster:

Q. Can that luxury system be displaced by a substitute?—A. Yes. There is no doubt that it can be one hundred per cent replaced by coke. I will make this statement generally, and make a reservation afterwards. Generally speaking, any house furnace that is equipped for hard coal can be used with a soft coal; but you have to remember that a ton of hard coal will run say 10,000 b.t.u's, and I doubt if there is any American anthracite which comes to Canada running that to-day; probably it is running 8,000 or 9,000 b.t.u's, and that will go further, or quite as far, with the most careful firing. Ton for ton it will be equal, but as against 10,000 b.t.u's you are burning 13,000 or 14,000 b.t.u's in soft coal. In industrial work you have such control of your air, and such long passages that you can burn the gases; but in the ordinary household furnace it is simply up and out, and the volatile matter is largely lost—as against the carbon with 14,000 b.t.u's. the hydrogen, with practically 60,000 is practically lost.

Q. The figure that we have on the importation of American anthracite to Nova Scotia seems to show that it is on the increase.—A. I would hardly say so. I recall a chart that was issued by the Fuel Commission about two years ago, showing the importation, and it has gone, I believe, as high as 200,000 for the Maritime Provinces. The year before last it fell away down.

Q. That was an abnormal year. There was a strike on.—A. There has been nothing to compete with it until this past year. One dealer in Halifax last winter handled no hard coal at all, not because he could not get it; he could have gotten some; but we got him to try this out, and he handled no hard coal at all.

By the Chairman:

Q. Roughly, with a production of 350,000 tons of coke per year, about how many men do you employ?—A. I would say that the total force on the plant, including the yard, the mechanical, the electrical and all the men necessary to operate that plant, and recover all the by-products would not exceed 200.

Q. We got an impression from Mr. Blauvelt yesterday that the number of men would be considerable, following the establishment of this industry?—A. Of course the establishment of a new plant like this would retain money in Canada, and a few more men would be employed, because in addition to what we have there you would require your docks, coal and coke storage, shipping, etc.

Q. Of course that applies to coal also?—A. Yes, but that is not included in your particular force there. You would require your coal-handling apparatus, you would have to have your shipping, for instance, where our shipping is simply running down a chute into the cars, and the whole thing goes to the blast furnace, and it is automatically screened; but there you would have to have