

*By Hon. Mr. Casgrain:*

Q. But suppose a merchant buys it in the coal yard and it has 25 per cent of ash, how is he going to come out?—A. Speaking particularly about Welsh coal, a dealer will order the coal from Wales, and they will send him the coal he asks for. If he asks for dry steam coal they will send that. Well, he could not sell that as the best fresh anthracite.

*By Hon. Mr. Webster:*

Q. Have you any instances where fuel was not up to the standard?—A. A number of instances have been reported in Montreal. There has been a considerable number of complaints in Montreal the last season, of people thinking they have got Welsh anthracite when they have not. As a matter of fact very little Welsh anthracite was brought to Montreal after last summer.

Q. The complaints come from the consumers?—A. Yes.

Q. Those in the trade would know whether they are getting the right coal or not?—A. Oh, presumably, yes. While I do not want to mention the word unscrupulous, there is not enough known about the different grades of Welsh coal that are suitable for domestic purposes. No doubt if you get the real Welsh coal it cannot be beaten.

Q. You are speaking about the domestic?—A. Entirely, Welsh anthracite.

Q. Are your operations for obtaining information confined to the province of Quebec?—A. We are dealing entirely with the local problems of Montreal.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. We had a coke expert here yesterday who protested against coke being described as a substitute for anthracite coal?—A. Well, he probably had some grounds for it.

Q. He says it is an alternative, and on the whole a superior fuel?—A. I am inclined to agree with him.

*By Hon. Mr. Casgrain:*

Q. Superior to anthracite; is that right?—A. I am inclined to agree with him, yes. I burned this year some of the heavy process coke and some anthracite Welsh coal, and some of the American anthracite. Certainly to compare with the quality of American anthracite we have been getting recently—which we know is not normal—it is undoubtedly better fuel. Even compared with the normal supply of American coal that we would get at this time I think coke of the quality of heavy process coke is at least equal to that.

*By Hon. Mr. Laird:*

Q. What does that cost in Montreal?—A. \$17.25, that is the heavy process coke; it is foundry coke, metallurgical coke. As a matter of fact they are not putting it on for domestic purposes. I bought some because it has been sold and used as a foundry coke, just to see what it could do. That is most excellent coke.

*By Hon. Mr. Casgrain:*

Q. The coke you got from the Montreal Light, Heat & Power Company, is that any good?—A. I burned that, too.

Q. Is it good?—A. No, it is not comparable with the other. It is perfectly serviceable coke, but it is not such a high grade coke as this other coke.

[Mr. F. A. Combe.]