

mine at Thorburn that can be reopened. The McBean mine which has not been operated since 1889, is known to contain over 5,000,000 tons of high quality coal and engineers have estimated that this coal can be produced at a cost of \$3.57 per net ton. This cost, the brief declared, is \$1.06 less per ton than the cost of all coal mined by the Acadia Company in 1936 and also less than the average cost of all coal mined in Nova Scotia in that year.

The McBean seam, the brief declared, would produce 205,000 tons of coal per year,—approximately 150,000 tons a year more than the present Thorburn mine is producing. To provide a market for this extra 150,000 tons, the brief pointed out that over 12,000,000 tons of foreign bituminous coal were imported into Canada last year and asked for a small proportion of that market now being supplied by foreign coal.

The brief asserted that Acadia Coal Company had been assisted by the Government of Nova Scotia to an extent of over \$300,000 by the remission of fees, royalties and assessments and by the Government of Canada through subventions. Reference was also made to the fact that the miners employed by Acadia Coal Company had accepted a cut in wages in 1934 amounting to 17.5% for contract men and 12.5% for datal men in order to assist the industry and that the total amount involved in these reductions now aggregated over \$600,000. All this assistance to the Company, the brief stated, had been extended in order to assure employment for the miners and that the Company therefore had a public duty to perform and that this duty could be met only by the opening of the McBean mine.