



ANOTHER LIVELY WEEK WRESTLING WITH PROBLEMS IN THE HOUSE AT VICTORIA

Lengthy Discussion of Hawthornthwaite's Bill for the Protection of Persons Employed in Dangerous Industries--Other Socialist Measures Pushed to the Front.

RAILWAY EXEMPTION

Government Again Freezes Anti-Oriental Clause Out of Amended Railway Assessment Act.

The Government's Railway Assessment Bill to grant new railways exemption from taxation for ten years after completion, passed its third reading on Tuesday afternoon after keen contestation. In the first place Mr. Stuart Henderson again moved his amendment to exclude Orientals from working on these lines. The Premier again opposed it on the ground that it would cause the dissolution of the bill, and again it was voted down.

Then Mr. MacDonald, the opposition leader, proposed an amendment to the effect that this House protests against the action of the Government in taking the constitutional privileges away from the House and placing them in the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite, while joining the Opposition in opposing the bill, took occasion to point out the inconsistency of the course of members on both sides in dealing with this question. Premier McBride wished now to insert an alien labor clause in an anti-Oriental one, and yet in 1902 when at Smith Curtis had proposed this same clause relating to alien labor, Mr. McBride had vigorously opposed it, while Mr. Oliver, Mr. Munro and others who were now opposing it had then supported it. How, then, could these men claim to be sincere? In fact, the course of the party politician in this and other matters could only be described as one of "flip-flopping." At the same time it should be noted that the bill was intended to exclude Orientals from working on the railways benefited, and he agreed that the Government had no right to take from the House its privilege of pronouncing on each application as it came before it.

The amendments were defeated and the bill passed on a division of 22 Government supporters against 14 Liberals and Socialists.

The Socialists have, however, by no means given up the fight. Parker Williams gives notice that he will propose the anti-Oriental clause to every private railway charter which comes up before the House.

Salvation Army Grant.

Parker Williams appears to be after General Booth's scalp again. On Friday last he asked Finance Minister Talbot what became of the \$15,000 voted in the estimates last year for immigration purposes, and if it had been spent, to whom it had been paid. Captain Talbot replied that \$8,200 had been spent of which \$3,000 went to the Salvation Army. It was divided as follows:

Grant to Salvation Army for building Welcome Hotel, Vancouver.....	\$2,500
Grant to Salvation Army, expenses in connection with immigrants.....	500
Amount advanced as loan to Salvation Army to assist in introducing domestic servants and farm laborers.....	5,000
	\$8,000

The other \$200 was paid to Mr. Frank I. Clarke (party leader) for getting out an immigration bulletin. Mr. Williams does not say what use he is going to make of this information, but no doubt it will be made the subject of some caustic criticism of Salvation Army methods when the estimates for next year are before the House.

Notice of Motion.

Mr. Parker Williams will next

week introduce a bill laying down regulations for employers who bring in workmen from other places. Its provisions require that an employer, before he hires a man on such conditions, shall state wages to be paid, nature of work and number of hours labor each day, and impose a penalty for breach of contract.

Mr. McInnis will again introduce his bill to establish a general eight-hour day. It was defeated last session, but McInnis would not be a true Socialist if he did not keep trying.

ORIENTALS ALLOWED

Parker Williams' Amendment to Shut Them Out from Working on Railways Under Private Charter Is Rejected by the House.

Mr. Parker Williams' anti-Oriental amendment to private railways bills came a climax on Tuesday when he proposed to add to the bill moved by Mr. Ross of Fernie, for the incorporation of the Crow's Nest Northern Railway Company. When the bill came into committee Mr. Williams moved to add to the conditions for its operation:

"Provided always, that neither directly nor indirectly shall any person of Oriental birth or extraction be employed in the construction of the said railway."

Mr. Williams said they had heard a good deal about the desire of both Liberals and Conservatives to keep out Orientals and here was a chance to test their sincerity. In giving charters to these private railway companies, they were practically creating a monopoly, because conditions in British Columbia were such that when a company had once obtained the right to build over a certain route it would be almost sure that there would be no room left for any other road; and in giving this exclusive right he thought they had a perfect right to make this condition.

A member on the other side on the other side of the House, regardless of whether the amendment was not constitutional. Well, there seemed to be three pet phrases in that House. They were, "unconstitutional," "I am a lawyer and you are a lawyer," and "What are your grounds?" It was a parrot of ordinarily decent intelligence was stuck up on the side of the hall, it would in a few days be able to rattle off these terms like any ordinary member of the House, they were used so often. But, anyhow, they might as well impose these conditions on every grant of franchise hitherto that House. It was the bounden duty of the House, regardless of whether they were constitutional or not, to embody the ideas of the people in their legislation, and nobody could deny that this amendment expressed a popular wish. Of course, Ottawa might say that this amendment seemed always ready to disallow any act in the interests of the Province, though the corporations seemed to have an influence there that entailed them to get anything they wanted. Anyhow, let the Legislature do its duty, and Ottawa could do what it pleased.

Mr. Ross said he felt that the amendment was offered more for the purpose of putting himself as being opposed to the interests of the workmen than anything else. While he could not accept the amendment on behalf of the applicants for incorporation he was quite willing to be opposed to the interests of the workmen than anything else. While he could not accept the amendment on behalf of the applicants for incorporation he was quite willing to be opposed to the interests of the workmen than anything else. While he could not accept the amendment on behalf of the applicants for incorporation he was quite willing to be opposed to the interests of the workmen than anything else.

bill as the Ottawa Government could disallow any one clause without disallowing the rest of the bill. They had a right to demand this condition. They would probably have this railway company coming down in a year or two asking for a land grant or a cash bonus; if they built this year they would claim exemption under the Act just passed. In giving these bonuses they had surely a right to say who should or who should not work on this railroad. Ross was not a labor member, though he represented an industrial centre. He would like to know how he managed it.

Speaker:—"You are not in order. Mr. Hawthornthwaite:—"It is a fact just the same and it puzzles me why the men of Fernie send him here."

The Premier took the view that the clause would lead to the disallowance of the bill, and as they wished to encourage railway building it would be a bad policy to leave it in.

Mr. MacDonald said he thought that in view of the fact that charters had been granted to other companies without this amendment, it would be unfair to put it in this case. It was different in the Government's Railway Exemption Bill which proposed to give something to all railways out of the public treasury, but this company was asking for nothing except a charter.

The amendment was negatived on the following division:—
Yeas (Messieurs):—Eagleson, Jones, Yorston, Henderson, Jardine, Williams, Hawthornthwaite, McInnis, Kern.
Nays (Messieurs):—King, Naden, Grant, Macdonald, Munro, Brewster, Talbot, McBride, Bowser, Cotton, Ellison, Ross, Shattford, McPhillips, Thomson, Hunter, Fulton, Young, Taylor, Garder, Macgowan, Gifford, Grant, Behrens, Manson, Hayward, McGuire, Parson, Davey, Schofield, 30.

DANGEROUS EMPLOYMENT ACT

Hawthornthwaite Makes Stirring Speech in Favor of Second Reading of His Bill.

A striking speech was made by J. H. Hawthornthwaite in moving the second reading of his bill for the protection of persons employed in dangerous industries. This Act seeks to keep Orientals out of the mines, sawmills, lumber camps, etc., by imposing on them the education test provided for immigrants in the Natal Act. In opposing the bill, Hawthornthwaite had a difficult task since he had to deal again with the Oriental problem which would seem to have already been talked threadbare. Nevertheless he managed to bring to light some new and unexpected points, which made his speech interesting.

In moving the second reading of the bill Mr. Hawthornthwaite said that a situation had arisen in British Columbia that would require close attention and some sacrifice before it could be remedied. In the Province at the present time one-fourth of the entire population and possibly one-third of the working population was composed of Orientals. They were crowding into the mill factories and mines and considerable trouble has arisen in relation to them. At the present time that wave of capitalist prosperity that had been sweeping over the Province was coming to an end, and some serious work would have to be made to relieve the working men. It was impossible for the workmen to make any further sacrifice himself as he

was already called upon to sacrifice four-fifths of all that he produced.

Now these people were out of employment in great numbers, and their situation would compel them to starve unless some effort was made to relieve the situation.

"This cannot go on much longer," said Mr. Hawthornthwaite, "I don't know whether the members of this House have lived in the crowded centres of civilization in the old country, but I do so before coming here and there I say scores that I am glad to say we have never yet seen in a country like this. I have seen there one or two bread fights, and I sincerely hope I shall never see such a one in British Columbia. It is something that one who has once seen they would not wish to see again. Under such conditions men seem to lose all reason and all fear and seem willing to sacrifice everything in order to obtain food. I hope there is a better intention of this legislature to allow such a condition to obtain in B. C."

He continued that they were all well aware that because of the Oriental competition in B. C. the standard of living among the white workers had been reduced that they were unable to compete against these people. He would not dwell upon that as it had already been discussed at great length, but he wished to draw attention to some phases that had been overlooked.

"Let me call attention to the Oriental quarters in Vancouver and Victoria. These places are positive cesspools of filth and wickedness, and crime of every description. We have in this Province to-day a considerable agitation in regard to the question of consumption, and have been asked to contribute a considerable sum towards the erection of a sanatorium near Kamloops for the cure of this disease that the Chinatowns in Victoria and Vancouver are just the breeding spots for this disease. It is well known that consumption is the scourge of the Oriental races; and if you go down to Chinatown and examine the conditions, the dirt and the surroundings—there you can readily understand that they are breeding places for this disease. Certain portions of the wealthy classes may regard themselves as exempt from this disease, but are they so? It is well known that the majority of the wealthy people in Victoria and Vancouver employ Chinamen in their houses, and every evening these men go down into these settlements, so that "Dear Madam" beneath them do not escape the danger, but brings it home to her own pampered darlings in the most dangerous form in which it is possible."

"Then again, let me call your attention to the danger of allowing in the public schools of B. C. the children of these Orientals. We find in Vancouver, Victoria and, I am sorry to say, in Nanaimo, a great number being taught in the public schools. That is not right. You are well aware that a Chinese boy teaches a man in his knowledge of certain subjects that are as yet an unopened door to the children of our country. And what can you expect from their contact with our children? Of course that a Chinese boy teaches a man that they have private schools and colleges and we have a University bill before this House for the purpose of removing them still further from contact with the common people; but we have these people in our schools and we, at least, cannot overlook the danger to our children from constant contact with these children of the Orient."

Mr. Hawthornthwaite continued that he was advertising to come abroad, we speak a great deal of the pleasant odors that float on the balmy breeze, etc., but we never refer to the odor that floats from the doors of

opium dens in the various industrial centres of our Province. In Vancouver of late, attention had been drawn to the fact that a great number of white girls were being held as slaves in Chinatown. It was said that even a number of school girls were being drawn to these places, and this showed that no home was exempt or should be protected from this iniquity. He would venture to say that the Provincial Secretary in scattering information about this Province all over Europe had not drawn attention to the fact that children would be subject to these dangers here, but it was the duty of every member of that House to give earnest attention to these things. The evil exists and there has not been the slightest attempt made to meet or prevent it.

The city of Vancouver has lately taken drastic steps in driving out certain women engaged in lives of infamy. They are driving them to Victoria, Nanaimo and other cities. Is that a remedy? I think it is not. We shall have to go a great deal deeper before the solution can be found. We find that it is white men and children who are being held, and if the honorable members sit here and treat it as a matter of indifference it is a disgrace to our legislators, our Ministers of Education, our public school teachers, our police officers and magistrates and all who are charged with jurisdiction in these matters."

Mr. Hawthornthwaite continued that having called attention to some of the worst phases of the present class, he wished to allude to another aspect of this question, and that was the ultimate effect of allowing these people to come in in great numbers and find occupation without restriction. He saw that the Imperial House had become alive to this question, and such men as Lord Crozier and Lord Curzon had taken the matter up and were asking whether it was not advisable that this Japanese treaty should be disallowed. It was our duty, who were closer to the matter, to consider this question in all its aspects. We see on the streets of Victoria, Vancouver and other cities, numbers of Sikhs, Gorkhas and others, who have been granted their own British Government. These people came to Canada thinking they would receive the same treatment as from the master class of the British race who when they came in contact with India, but when they came here they found their hopes dashed to the ground. Who was to give them a welcome? The wealthy people will not give them welcome to their houses or introduce them to their wives or families except as wage slaves. It was therefore left to the workmen to welcome them; but they could not do that either, because these people had been brought here under conditions harder for them, and they did not feel like welcoming them if they were, like ourselves, British subjects. So we find that these people have been scorned and their religious ideas flouted, what would be the consequence? These people would drift back to India where the fangs of discontent and rebellion was already spreading. They could say no good word of the British or his hated rule, and it could lead to nothing but dire results.

He did not altogether agree with Keir Hardie and English Liberals and Radicals that British rule had proved disastrous to India. That view had been expressed again and again, and they heard the cry of "Perish India! Abandon India! Abandon our colonies!" He did not agree with that. It did not seem to him that the people had undergone any great disadvantage under British rule.

(Continued on page 4.)

A RAILWAY FIGHT

Hawthornthwaite Leads the Forces Against Millionaire Corbin.

Among the millions of millionaire monopolists to squeeze out small investors the bill to incorporate the Eastern British Columbia Railway Company, now before the Legislature is a good example. This bill asks for power to construct a railway from what is known as "The Loop" on the Crow's Nest Pass Railway for a distance of twelve miles from the mouth of Michel Creek. Three years ago a charter for the same route was granted to the Southeast Kootenay Company, which is composed largely of local investors, while the Eastern British Columbia road is controlled by D. C. Corbin an American millionaire, who has already built a number of small roads in Southern British Columbia. The Southeast Kootenay has opposed the Corbin application right along, knowing that if the charter was granted their chance of financing their own project would be very poor as there is said to be only room for one road along the course of the Michel valley. Moreover the Southeast Kootenay company has already spent \$15,000 in completing its surveys and building a trail to bring in supplies when they commence to build the road next year. Corbin's argument is that he has cool measures along Michel Creek that he wishes to develop and that he has waited three years for the Southeast Kootenay company to build a road along the route, but they have not done so. Now Corbin wants to open up his cool mines and guarantees that if given the charter he will have the road built within a year. The Southeast Kootenay reply that they have cool measures also lying twelve miles beyond Corbin's, and to reach their mines they must pass Corbin's anyhow, but Corbin can build as far as his aid and stop short.

Ross, of Fernie, introduced the bill to the House, saying that on his acceptance it depended whether they were to have free trade in railways or not, or whether having once granted a charter over a route they were to consider that their hands were tied and they could go no further.

Hawthornthwaite rose and denounced the bill as the attempt of a grasping monopolist to crush out a smaller Canadian corporation. The House next Wednesday granted a charter to another company who had faithfully performed the work required of them; there was only room for one railway and should they pass it would mean the squeezing out of the weaker company. He admitted that they had passed the age of competition and reached the age of monopoly and trusts, but if trusts were to exist let them exist in the commercial world, and not be inaugurated in that House. He hoped the House would vote down this attempt of an American monopolist to squeeze and crush weaker organization composed of our own citizens who had put their money into the undertaking in good faith.

Mr. McPhillips moved the adjournment of the debate, and it is not likely that the matter will come up again. The House next Wednesday granted a charter to another company who had faithfully performed the work required of them; there was only room for one railway and should they pass it would mean the squeezing out of the weaker company. He admitted that they had passed the age of competition and reached the age of monopoly and trusts, but if trusts were to exist let them exist in the commercial world, and not be inaugurated in that House. He hoped the House would vote down this attempt of an American monopolist to squeeze and crush weaker organization composed of our own citizens who had put their money into the undertaking in good faith.

DANGEROUS EMPLOYMENT ACT

(Continued from page one.)

lab. It was a necessary step in their development and evolution which must have come about possibly in a harder form sooner or later, and possibly they had been treated as kindly by the British as the Japanese and the rulers. The British people did not go to India from motives of humanity, but simply to find a market, and to bring from the teeming millions of that country the surplus product of their labor. That was why they were there, but the working class would have been no better off if they had never come.

What was the condition in Japan? Everyone was aware that the condition of the Japanese in this country could not continue. Those already in the Province must be removed, and others prevented from coming in. These people had also been discriminated against. They came here expecting a good life, but they found a life of poverty. They were to be treated as second-class citizens. They were to be treated as a race of inferior beings. They were to be treated as a race of inferior beings. They were to be treated as a race of inferior beings.

It was idle to overlook it. These people here were every day subjected to insult. We could not extend them a welcome. Women in the House receive them to their wives and daughters? The workmen certainly could not.

"Take myself, as a Socialist, who is supposed to stand for the broadest of men. I say I am a Socialist of British Columbia, and will do my best to secure the expatriation of those already here. There seems to be some strange ideas abroad in regard to our position in this matter. It is in proof of this Mr. Hawthornthwaite read a statement in the Victoria Times copied from the Montreal Witness, representing the Socialists of British Columbia as a selfish class from whom they were to be excluded in any benefits that might accrue to the workmen, and accusing Mr. Hawthornthwaite personally of having called the Lieutenant-Governor a human beast, and the capitalists generally as 'bastard Socialists.'" Mr. Hawthornthwaite said that while he might have used strong language, he had not used such language as that, and their statements against him were untrue.

He continued that last year the Finance Minister had a pipe dream that this wave of capitalist prosperity would continue, and proceeded to bring other ways to be trained. These people were here and he saw no other way in which they could obtain relief except to pass that bill. If not, what would happen? These people would starve. He noticed the Finance Minister smiled as much as if he were laughing. The Speaker called Mr. Hawthornthwaite to order and told him not to speak offensively of other honorable members. Mr. Hawthornthwaite said he was not aware that his remarks were so offensive, and that these people had mouths to defend themselves with. There were thousands out of employment, and the Finance Minister was bringing thousands of others into the country. He was not to be returned to their own country at the public expense and should be fully compensated for the damage done by them by the capitalists who had brought them here.

The Government was willing to spend millions out of the public treasury to establish a University for the wealthier classes, and the public lands were placed at the mercy of charter-mongers and franchise-grabbers. Let them be trained. These people were here and he saw no other way in which they could obtain relief except to pass that bill. If not, what would happen? These people would starve. He noticed the Finance Minister smiled as much as if he were laughing.

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conquer the world, and what was to stop them? Capitalism had so degraded the nations that we had lost our fighting strength, and we could not successfully conduct a war. The party had already in the industrial field. The only chance was that they might receive the message of Socialism, and he was glad to see that they were advancing in that way. The party had already in the industrial field. The only chance was that they might receive the message of Socialism, and he was glad to see that they were advancing in that way.

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Interest in the best interests of his family, by voting for this bill. Mr. Speaker's bill is being doing all these things." (Applause.) Premier McBride moved the adjournment of the debate.

EIGHT-HOUR LAW FOR SHIPBUILDERS.

An Act to Regulate the Hours of Labor in Marine and Shipbuilding Works.

1. This Act may be cited as the "Marine and Shipbuilding Workers' Regulation Act, 1908." 2. No person shall be employed in and around any shipbuilding yard, ships' ways, marine shipyards or construction works, for the purpose of building, repairing, or working on any steam, sailing, or other vessels, railway boilers, or other work of like nature, for a longer period than eight hours in any twenty-four hours. Provided always that nothing herein contained shall prevent employment for a longer period than eight hours in case of an accident, or for the saving of human life, or in case of an emergency where a ship might, through delay, be in danger of sinking or losing its charter; but overtime so aggregated shall not exceed more than twenty days in twelve months for each person so employed.

3. Twenty-four hours, for the purposes of this Act shall mean from midnight to midnight. Any employer who contravenes the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to have acted illegally, and may be enjoined therefor, and shall also be liable to prosecution under the "Summary Convictions" Act and Amending Acts. Any Justice of the Peace or a Police Magistrate, and upon conviction for such offence shall be liable to a penalty or fine not exceeding one hundred dollars in each instance.

NOTES AROUND THE HOUSE.

So the Government has decided to increase the seasonal indemnity from \$200 to \$250. There may be some difference of opinion among the electors as to the wisdom of this move, but there seems to be very little among the legislators. The capitalists claim that it is justified because so much of their labor force has to be abstracted from churning out dollars in their own business. The workmen, numbering the Socialists, claim that it is right, because they cannot follow any steady occupation, and the indemnity is practically all they have to live on. In addition to this, large demands are also made upon them in various ways. Certainly it would seem that they are justified in fighting capital under present circumstances with its own weapons. At least the Socialist members cannot be accused of dissipating the money that comes to them in luxurious living. They all stay in moderate-priced hotels, and the full dress circle of the stylish new C. P. R. Empress institution never sees them.

The Rogers Locomotive Works at Paterson N. J., are to be closed down, as there are no orders in sight. The "Industrial depression" now being over, the outlook for the future is most cheerful.

HE LOOKS TO THE WEST.

Geo. M. O'Neill and Executive Board of Western Federation of Miners: Dear comrades: I read with great pleasure an announcement in a recent issue of the "Western Worker" of a conference to be held in the Bear future to which the various labor unions interested in the industrial plan for organization, as well as both factions of the I. W. W., were invited.

Comrades, the eyes of the American working class are turned to you of the West for guidance and deliverance. The sentiment for industrial unionism is strong in the consciousness of all that have been reached with the economic philosophy of socialism. It is becoming clear to the intelligent worker that the old slogan of the craft union, "Get a little bit more," must soon be changed to the sheer force of circumstances to "Take a little bit less."

It is becoming clearer every day that a struggle with the master class over the division of the product is future task that the workers must take to money and effort expended annually by organized labor must be directed to a battle over the title to the product, if the working class is to make any advance. It is becoming clear to those who

have pondered over the brutal physical attacks made upon the working class in their moments of distress by a man who is cowardly at the ballot box and will shrink from insisting that his ballot shall be registered and counted, will not manifest any strong "revolutionary sentiment" in the industrial battlefield. It is not consistent with common sense or reason that a man's "revolutionary sentiments" will be stronger and more courageous than those sentiments in the political organization. There are a number of men in the labor movement who speak of the ballot as a "paper wad" that will be ineffectual in overthrowing the system that holds the working class in slavery. But these men have failed to produce any convincing arguments in support of such an assertion. That the ballot is recognized as a potent weapon by the capitalist class is proven by the efforts that are being made to disfranchise the working class by masked statute laws.

If these men in the labor movement believe that the ballot is but a "paper wad" and worthless, then these men should not timidly demand that our law makers should relieve the laboring people of this innumerable, and there is no question of a doubt in the minds of observing men that the capitalist class will give such a demand their consideration. It is not the ballot of the working class is not counted, is sometimes ignored, and other times thrown out, and is offered as proof that the ballot is impotent. The fact is not taken into consideration that the laboring people as a class have not as yet united to vote their class interests. Not more than a half million of laboring people in the United States have given any evidence that they are comrades of the class struggle. This nation of eight million of people, and one-half million of class-conscious voters will not be able to halt the capitalist in its villainous perfidy, which they can obtain from me at relative to the elective franchise of any business meeting. Our fund is rapidly increasing and if my comrades will do his part, we will class-conscious voters can add three or four millions of voters as a reinforcement. My next monthly report will be on the 28th of March.

Previously acknowledged: \$48.50 Leads 1.00 Parry Brown (2 months) 2.00 F. Perry 1.00 P. Garvie, (3 months) 3.00 Geo. Nichols 2.00 Mr. Bone (2 months) 1.00 Mrs. Bone (2 months) 1.00 C. Peters (2 months) 2.00 Geo. Daleo 2.00 Geo. Whitehead 1.00 C. F. Schroeder 1.00 A. B. Stobbing (2 months) 2.00 R. Jamison 1.00 Mc 1.00 J. D. 3.00 A. Hewitt (3 months) 1.00 H. McLean 5.00 A. Friend 5.00 O. Rayner (2 months) 2.00 B. J. L. 1.00

Local Vancouver No. 1, S. P. of C. Although it is impossible to say at this time just when the elections will be, present indications seem to point to mid-summer as the probable date. The "too" old parties are getting ready for the usual haul.

UNITED HATTERS OF NORTH AMERICA

When you are buying a FUR HAT see to it that the Gen. Union Label is sewed in it. If a retailer has loose labels in his possession and offers to put one in a hat for you, do not patronize his store. Labels in retail stores are counterfeit. The genuine Union Label is perforated on four edges, exactly the same as a postage stamp. Counterfeits are sometimes perforated on three edges, and some times only on two. John B. Stetson Co., of Philadelphia, is a non-union concern.

JOHN A. MOFFETT, President, Orange, N. J. MARTIN LALOR, Secretary, 14 Waverly Place, New York.

YES YOU!

You're the fellow we are after, the one who has never used

Coke for Fuel

The other ones are not worrying about, because they are sending in their orders regularly. They know the economy of burning Coke in the furnace and range.

Vancouver Gas Co., Ltd.

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