We Should Be Ashamed to Stand By and See the American Consumer of Coal for Domestic Use Being Hoodwinked, Says the Well-Known Statistician, and Explains Why.

The coal strike was not due to the fault of the miners, who are seeking a just wage for their work, but to the policy of the company owners. The miners have been working under exceedingly difficult conditions for years, and their demands are fully justified. The companies, on the other hand, are powerful and well-organized, and are able to resist the demands of the miners. The strike has been caused by the refusal of the companies to grant the miners a fair wage.

The coal strike is a serious matter, and it is to be hoped that a settlement can be reached soon. The country cannot afford to have such a strike continue, as it would have a serious effect on the economy. The companies should be forced to grant the miners a fair wage, and the miners should be willing to work for a fair wage. A settlement should be reached soon, and the country can then go about its business without further delay.
Upon every ton of coal delivered to your
mill, your coal dealer introduces a
pension; put safety appliances in
place; reduce the amount of
steam; and still leave the coal as
rich and marketable as the oil
business.

"That is the gist of Mr. Babson's, "is that
if the coal operators were permitted to
regulate prices (which they cannot do un
der our law), they would avoid the
lump coal which they produce in ex-
cess and at prices below those at which
they produce in excess in the Win-
ter, and would thus be in position to
equip the market with the kind of
mustard prices would not go up every
time the thermometer went down. I agree
with Mr. Babson that a large number of
users may never pay the operators' full
profit but will insist upon paying the
same as another workman gets for
nothing because he is a workman and not
the man who is steadily employed.

Now, a man, depending on his yearly income is not enough. He
knows it is useless to ask for a
steadily employed, so he asks for
10 cents, 25 cents or 50 cents. If any increase what-
ever is granted, it must be paid, and we
all know that this money can come from only one source. The
producer must take it from his profit or
it must be raised by increasing the
price and cost of the coal.

The price paid for coal one hundred
years ago was only 10 cents a ton. The
producer could, and did, make a lot
of money at that time. Now, the
producer could, and does, make
10 cents a ton. The producer is
either making too much money in
coal, or he is not making enough. The
price of coal is too high, or too low. It is out of the question to
assume that the price of coal is
simply the cost of production. This
means it was paid for by us and the
producer must do something to
make up the difference when the
price of coal has gone down rather than
up. Rail-
way companies are making a
profit of $1.15 for their coal, and yet it
all the coal is being sold for 10 cents a
run. The official figures for Illinois show a
price of coal at 10 cents a ton that
was 14 cents a ton in eleven

With this situation made clear, it
re
quires no wizard to explain why we pay
so much for coal. All business changes, including the coal
business, are companies operated solely to make
profit. If they do not make it, one
will go out of business. This is the same
thing as in every other. If coal companies are
prevented from organizing and all of their big cus-
tomers in the same way, the public will buy it from the
smaller companies. This gives the coal company no
hope of keeping business. When a company
makes a profit, the public will buy from it, and the
profit comes from you and me. If we are not
centralized buyers and we pay our
miners, our workmen, our salesmen,
our workmen, and other people, it is that
reason we must make up the loss and sup-
port all the profit which we are doing

enough to pay the cost of production, the
operators, having paid the price of
insurance, will begin to leave the coal as
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