

Hill to President Taft

Re high duty on coal and coke and its baneful results on American copper mines and smelters. The Montana and Washington smelters get their main supply of coke from Penna. and Trinidad in southern Colorado. Cost therefore is too high and the only Amer. smelter has had to shut down. Amer. ores are being sent to British Columbia smelters, which are all active - 7 have been built. In Montana ore below $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3% is left in mines, as a result of high coke cost & transportation, but in B.C. due to the cheaper coke they can use $1\frac{1}{2}$ % ore. High tariff on coke and coal is driving all smelter business across line. JJH LetterBook, 3/14/08 - 3/17/10, p. 277