

ALBERTA'S COAL AREA

(Special Correspondence, Journal of Commerce)

Edmonton, October 20th, 1913.

Alberta's total coal reserves contain a larger tonnage than all the rest of Canada. Its actual and probable resources are estimated at 1,075,039,000,000 metric tons, as compared with 160,841,910,000 tons for the six other provinces and the Yukon, the Northwest territories and the Arctic islands, and are 14 times the reserves of British Columbia, 18 times greater than Saskatchewan and 110 times more than Nova Scotia, at present the largest producing province in the Dominion. Canada's coal fields have an estimated total surface area of 109,168 square miles, of which 77,184 square miles is in the Edmonton district.

The total coal resources of the world are estimated as follows: Anthracite, 496,846,000,000 tons; bituminous, 3,092,944,000,000 tons; sub-bituminous and lignites, 2,997,763,000,000 tons. Asia leads in anthracite coal with 407,637,000,000 tons, and North America and South America lead in bituminous with 2,271,080,000,000 tons, and in semi-bituminous and lignites 2,811,906,000,000 tons.

The United States is credited with an annual coal production of 445,000,000 tons; Great Britain is second with 264,000,000 tons; Germany is third with 221,000,000 tons, and Canada is tenth with 13,000,000 tons, of which 3,500,000 tons is mined in the province of Alberta.

D. B. Dowling, co-editor with W. McInnes and W. W. Leach of the Geological Survey of Canada of "The Coal Resources of the World," a three-volume work, published in connection with the last session of the International Geological Congress, gives these figures of Alberta's coal resources:

Actual reserves: Anthracite, 668,000,000 tons; bituminous, 3,209,000,000 tons; semi-bituminous and lignites, 384,908,000,000 tons.

Probable reserves: Anthracite, 100,000,000 tons; bituminous, 194,883,000,000 tons; semi-bituminous and lignites, 491,271,000,000 tons. The coal resources in the other provinces, territories and islands of Canada are stated as follows:

Nova Scotia—Actual reserve: Bituminous, 2,188,000,000 tons; probable reserve, 7,531,000,000 tons.

New Brunswick—Probable reserve 151,000,000 tons.

Ontario—Probable reserve: Sub-bituminous and lignites, 25,000,000 tons.

Saskatchewan—Probable reserve: Sub-bituminous, 59,812,400,000 tons.

Manitoba—Probable reserves: Sub-bituminous and lignites, 160,000,000 tons.

British Columbia—Actual reserve: Anthracite, 7,000,000 tons; bituminous, 23,764,000,000 tons; semi-bituminous and lignites, 60,000,000 tons. Probable reserves: Anthracite, 1,343,000,000 tons; bituminous, 45,725,000,000 tons; sub-bituminous and lignites, 5,136,000,000 tons.

Yukon—Probable reserves: Anthracite, 40,000,000 tons; bituminous, 210,000,000 tons; semi-bituminous and lignites, 4,690,000,000 tons.

Northwest territories—Probable reserves: Semi-bituminous and lignites, 4,800,000,000 tons.

Arctic islands—Probable reserves: Semi-bituminous, 6,000,000,000 tons.

There are three distinct coal horizons in Alberta: The Kootenay, or lower cretaceous; the Belly river or middle cretaceous; and the Edmonton lying at the top of the cretaceous. The upper Edmonton formation covers an area of 24,779 square miles, and the lower Edmonton covers 52,405 square miles. Toward the north the trough broadens and the coal seams increase in thickness. For example, a group of seams, five feet thick south of the Bow river, widens to 13 feet at Calgary, where it lies at a depth of 1,800 feet; and on the North Saskatchewan river, west of Edmonton, it attains a thickness of 15 feet; then splits into two 10-foot seams

where the Grand Trunk Pacific railway crosses the Pembina river. A series of smaller seams at a depth lower by from 500 feet to 600 feet than the seam referred to is mined at Edmonton, Tofield, and points between the Grand Trunk Pacific and Canadian Pacific railway lines. Further this coal changes from lignite in its northeastern area to coking coal in the foothills.

TRADE INQUIRIES

The following were among the inquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, 17 Victoria Street, London, S.W., during the week ending October 6th, 1913:—

A Scottish firm make inquiry for the names of Canadian firms able to supply wood naptha and pyridine bases.

Inquiry is received from a correspondent in the Province of Ontario for names of manufacturers in Great Britain of children's hats.

A Montreal firm wish to secure the representation of a United Kingdom manufacturer of Lithopone, for which they have a good market.

From the branch for City trade inquiries, 73 Basinghall Street, E.C.:

A London firm of fruit importers desire the addresses of Canadian shippers of apples, pears and peaches.

A Toronto business man now in London, who conducts a brokerage business, wishes to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of pickles, jams, olives, and grocery specialties generally, seeking business on a commission basis.

A firm of brokers and commission agents at Calgary, with an office at Vancouver, who already represent several well-known United Kingdom firms, are looking for further connections. They call on wholesale jobbers between Winnipeg and the Coast, chiefly in groceries and kindred lines, but would handle any goods for which an opening exists.

A commercial and financial agent at Hamilton, Ontario, is looking for an agency in motor cycles.

A Montreal firm covering Quebec, Ontario, and the Maritime Provinces, are open to handle a few additional lines of hardware goods.

A Calgary firm of manufacturers' agents, whose territory extends from Winnipeg to Victoria, seek agencies in lace curtains and nets, tickings and piece goods dry, draperies, linoleum, floor rugs, and cocoa and twine mattings.

A Vancouver firm of manufacturers' agents who are in a position to furnish United Kingdom references, wish to secure the agency of firms in Great Britain manufacturing goods suitable to the requirements of Western Canada.

A Hamilton firm wish to represent manufacturers of cocoa, chocolates and tea; also shippers, brushes, furs, and linen handkerchiefs.

CANADA IMPORTING CORN.

Canada, the world's greatest granary, is now importing corn. The Clinton Hall, consigned to the Robert Reford Co., is coming up the river with a load of corn with which it sailed from Buenos Aires about six weeks ago, and the Glenarm Head sailed from Belfast with another corn cargo, shipped at that port after being brought from Argentina to Belfast. The explanation of the seeming absurdity is that the corn crop of the United States in the Middle West has been a failure, and, under present conditions, it is far cheaper to import corn from Argentina direct, or even to tranship it at Belfast after importation from Argentina, than to bring it from Chicago to Montreal—(Montreal Gazette.)