ABSENCE OF COAL IN THE CARBONIFEROUS FORMATIONS OF EGYPT

Carboniferous strata are present in Egypt both west of the Gulf of Suez (Wadi Araba), and in Western Sinai, but the only plant remains hitherto found are isolated remains of *Lepidodendron Mosaicum*, there being no indications up to the present of the accumulation of coal.

SUMMARY

1—Lignitic formations with thin streaks of true coal are present: (a) in the two main shallow water formations of Egypt, connected with the late Eocene deposits of the Fayum, and (b) scattered throughout the area occupied by the Nubian sandstone formation, and especially in those regions where clays or shales are interbedded with the sandstones, the extension being of a wide nature.

2—The occurrences reported in Sinai have not yet been studied as to their geological relationships.

3—There is at present no evidence of the existence of true coal-bearing strata in the Egyptian Carboniferous series.

4—Unfortunately none of the coal-bearing beds hitherto noted are of sufficient thickness to have encouraged commercial development.