

## MEMORANDUM CONCERNING BRIQUETTING OF LIGNITES.

At the first meeting of Council there was constituted a committee to deal with the utilization of lignites, which committee, added to from time to time, has made interim reports to the Council. It is now possible to make definite recommendations on the situation.

In the meantime your committee, consisting of: Dr. F. D. Adams, Dr. W. C. Murray, Dr. A. S. Mackenzie, and Mr. R. A. Ross, Chairman, has reviewed the general fuel situation throughout the Dominion, and having concluded that the domestic fuel problem of the North West presented the best field for immediate results, thereafter confined its attention to the briquetting of the lignites of the North West for domestic purposes.

Your committee in carrying out this study has availed itself of all the literature and information in the hands of the Dominion Government, and all the public records of the United States Government, relating especially in the latter case to the lignites of North Dakota, and through the good offices of the Mines Branch, and the Commission of Conservation, has had the benefit of the co-operation of Mr. B. F. Haanel and Mr. W. J. Dick.

A considerable amount of literature exists, published chiefly through Government agencies, covering the coal briquetting problem; but there is very little information extant regarding the briquetting of carbonized lignites. Fortunately, however, such information as does exist concerns the lignites of Southern Saskatchewan.

As regards this memorandum, the idea is to present in as concise form as possible the facts and conclusions under suitable heads, placing all statistics and figures in tables at the end.

### THE SITUATION.

1st. The fuel resources of the Dominion of Canada are second only to those of the United States, the greatest coal country in the world.

2nd. In spite of this fact, Canada imports at present and always has imported—50% of her fuel from the United States. (See Table 3.)

3rd. Canadian efficiency in this regard is, therefore, about 50%.