

## WHERE CANADA'S COAL FIELDS ARE LOCATED

*Coal Areas in Various Parts  
of the Dominion Described  
in Report*

### N.S. LARGEST PRODUCER

The following account of the coal resources of the Dominion, by provinces, is found in the introduction to the report of the Coal Trade of Canada, prepared by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics:—

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

In Nova Scotia are found the largest producing mines in Canada, namely, the coal seams of Cape Breton and Inverness counties in the island of Cape Breton and the fields of Pictou and Cumberland counties on the mainland. On the island of Cape Breton are situated the largest producing companies, namely, the Dominion Coal Company and the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company in the Sydney coal field and the Inverness mines in that county. The output of the Nova Scotia mines for the past few years has been as follows: 1915, 7,513,739; 1916, 6,911,995; 1917, 6,345,335. It will be noted that the above figures show a decrease due largely to the enlistment of miners and under-ground workers with the colours. While a large number of these men were replaced, the newcomers had not the experience of those who had left, and consequently were not able to maintain the output tonnage that had previously been recorded. The number of employees in the coal producing mines, surface and underground, in Nova Scotia, for a number of years past, are given in the Mines Report for the province as follows: 1913, 13,664; 1914, 14,638; 1915, 16,326; 1916, 13,124; 1917, 12,483.

One or two outstanding points may be noted with regard to the disposal of the province's coal tonnage. The consumption within the province itself has increased from 2,910,929 tons in 1913 to 3,226,481 tons in 1917; the coal sent to the province of Quebec shows a very marked falling off; the latter province receiving from Nova Scotia in 1914, 2,667,372 tons and in 1917 only 339,366 tons, a decrease of 2,328,006 tons. Among the factors that have been potent in the development of the Nova Scotia coal trade has been the amalgamation of coal areas whereby a large amount of capital was made available and modern methods and machinery for mining purposes were employed, thus multiplying the volume of output. The result has been that, under normal conditions, some of the mines have an output of coal equal to that of any other on the continent.

The tonnage devoted to bunkering purposes has very materially increased. In fact, the increase in the year 1916 over that of its predecessor was practically 50 per cent, and the year 1917 while showing a decline still led 1915 by 45,654 tons. This increase in bunker coal represents, of course, a large increase in the amount of shipping employed in our export trade, together with the requirements for the purpose of transporting troops sailing from Halifax and Sydney.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK.

The coal fields of New Brunswick have been known for many years, but they have not been developed to any great extent until within the last few years. The seams of coal are thin, not exceeding 32 inches in thickness, and in many places barely reaching 22 inches, but they lie in very close proximity to the surface.

From the economic point of view the Minto field is the most important, and is the field which is at present being

## WHEAT PRODUCTION OF WORLD, 1918 AND 1919

The amount of wheat produced in the world this year is estimated by the table below, which also gives production of last year. It is reproduced from the Agricultural Gazette, issued by the Department of Agriculture:—

Countries.	1919.	1918.	Pre-war five years' average 1909-13.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
United States.....	1,161,000,000	917,100,000	686,697,000
Canada.....	282,105,000	189,075,000	197,118,000
Mexico.....	8,000,000(a)	8,000,000	8,480,000
Argentina.....	160,000,000(a)	184,270,000	147,071,000
Chili.....	12,000,000(a)	12,000,000	14,000,000
Uruguay.....	7,000,000(a)	8,000,000	6,519,000
Austria.....	40,000,000(b)	40,000,000	60,840,000
Hungary.....	104,000,000(b)	103,000,000	169,646,000
Belgium.....	8,000,000(b)	9,000,000	14,896,000
Bulgaria.....	34,000,000(a)	34,000,000	42,440,000
Denmark.....	5,200,000(b)	6,320,000	5,344,000
France.....	180,000,000(a)	233,784,000	317,639,000
Germany.....	80,000,000(a)	90,331,000	152,120,000
Greece.....	4,000,000(b)	8,000,000	4,320,000
Italy.....	160,000,000(b)	176,372,000	183,336,000
Herzegovina and Bosnia.....	1,500,000(a)	1,500,000	2,560,000
Netherlands.....	4,000,000(b)	4,823,000	4,896,000
Norway.....	800,000(b)	1,087,000	306,000
Luxemburg.....	500,000(a)	512,000	613,000
Portugal.....	6,400,000(b)	7,000,000	7,740,000
Roumania.....	70,000,000(a)	70,000,000	87,793,000
Russia-in-Europe.....	550,000,000(a)	475,000,000	624,620,000
Russian Poland.....	15,000,000(a)	12,160,000	21,930,000
Serbia.....	8,000,000(a)	8,000,000	13,800,000
Spain.....	138,398,000	135,710,000	130,447,000
Sweden.....	8,000,000(b)	9,003,000	7,769,000
Switzerland.....	6,000,000(b)	7,095,000	3,314,000
Cyprus and Malta.....	2,400,000(a)	2,400,000	2,400,000
Great Britain and Ireland.....	75,000,000(a)	93,178,000	59,640,000
India.....	276,526,000	379,829,000	359,035,000
Japan.....	25,000,000	25,593,000	24,166,000
Russia-in-Asia.....	110,000,000(a)	90,000,000	151,142,000
Persia.....	13,000,000(a)	13,600,000	13,600,000
Algeria.....	25,000,000(a)	35,000,000	34,998,000
Egypt.....	30,000,000(a)	32,555,000	34,814,000
Union of South Africa.....	5,000,000(a)	8,600,000	6,520,000
Tunis.....	6,614,000	8,451,000	6,230,000
Australia.....	90,000,000(a)	80,836,000	90,500,000
New Zealand.....	6,000,000(a)	6,265,000	7,070,000
Totals.....	3,718,443,000(a)	3,527,449,000	3,706,069,000

most extensively worked. The annual output of coal in New Brunswick for the past few years has been as follows: 1915, 126,923; 1916, 143,658; 1917, 189,668. This tonnage is, of course, small in comparison with that of the neighbouring province of Nova Scotia, but it will be seen that it has shown a marked increase due to the increased demand for coal. The coal itself from this field is of good quality and is consequently in demand for both industrial and domestic purposes. The method of working these thin seams when the surface or overburden extends over fifteen feet is to sink small shafts from which the coal is hoisted to the surface in mine cars holding about 800 pounds. A system of working has been devised to meet the logical conditions of these seams whereby a large percentage of the available coal is extracted. Where the overburden is light, the method of producing is known as "stripping." This method may be described briefly as removing the soil overlying the coal by means of a steam shovel as in the ordinary way of excavating in railroad construction. The coal, which is itself laid bare, is then loaded directly into railroad cars. This latter method of producing coal has been used more or less extensively in the recent past on account of the labour situation, as men accustomed to working in thin seams have been extremely hard to get, while with stripping operations inexperienced labour can be used and a much greater number of tons per man employed can be obtained. Even the difficulty of working during the winter months is to some extent being overcome.

#### MANITOBA.

As previously intimated, Manitoba lies within the zone which is practically de-

void of coal. The explorations of the Geological Survey of Canada have established the fact that there are no rock strata present in this area which contain workable seams of coal. During the past year, the province depended on Canadian mines for approximately 50 per cent of its supply of commercial coal drawing the balance from importations of United States coal. About 65 per cent of the United States coal consumed by the province was anthracite.

#### SASKATCHEWAN.

Saskatchewan has important coal fields situated in the lower part of the province, in close proximity to the international boundary line. The output of the mines in the province for the year 1917 was 360,623 net tons of coal, classed as lignite, which is used largely for local consumption. The province has unnumbered pockets of lignite, much of which is mined in a desultory fashion. There is, however, an important group of mines in the southwestern corner of the province, which, largely on account of freight rates on imported coal, are able to compete favourably within the province with coal coming in from the west or the south and east.

#### ALBERTA.

The province of Alberta is second in rank of the coal-producing provinces, having 566 coal mines in operation during the past year, the output of which totalled 4,863,414 net tons, an increase of 214,810 tons over the year 1916, establishing a record for this province. In addition to this tonnage, and that produced by Saskatchewan, the area comprising the three Prairie Provinces and head of the lakes imported from the United States 3,340,390 net tons of coal. In the producing mines of Alberta there

were employed in the year 1917 an average number of 6,047 men and boys underground, and 2,263 above ground, a total of 8,310. Alberta has been extremely fortunate in having within its boundaries coal fields of large magnitude, and comprising all grades and classes of coal, anthracite, bituminous and lignite. Mr. Dowling, of the Geological Survey, in his work in the Coal Fields and Coal Resources of Canada, estimates the available coal at 1,072,627,400 metric tons (1,182,571,708,500 net tons). Anthracite coal is mined at Bankhead, near Banff, by the Natural Resources Division of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Bituminous coal of the very best quality, practically equal to Welsh Admiralty, is mined at the Crowsnest Pass and other districts. The bituminous districts are at Canmore, Brazeau, Yellowhead Pass and Mountain park. Lignite is mined in twenty-seven districts of the province.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Coal was discovered in the province of British Columbia in the year 1835 at Squash on the Pacific slope and later near the present town of Nanaimo, on information given to the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company by the Indians. The first attempts at mining were made on a small scale. "The Douglas Seam" at Nanaimo was discovered in the year 1850 and, from this small beginning, the industry has developed and spread over the coal mining districts of Ladysmith and Nanaimo, and on the island of Vancouver at Cumberland and Comox.

The important coal areas at Fernie and other nearby points were reached by the Crowsnest Pass railway, as were subsequently the coal areas at Merritt. Other large coal fields are known to exist in this area and await future development.

The output of coal in British Columbia in the year 1917 was 2,676,760 net tons, a decrease of 107,089 net tons from the output of the mines for the year 1916. As in nearly all the coal-producing areas both in Canada and the United States, shortage of labour has been experienced during the war period, due to the fact that so many mine workers enlisted for overseas service, first in Canada and then in the United States.

Reference has already been made to shipments of Canadian coal to the United States. From the collieries of Vancouver island, the output for the year was 1,899,207 net tons, distributed as follows: Sold as coal in Canada, 824,969 tons; sold as coal in the United States, 576,697 tons; sold in other countries, 42,796 tons. Coming to the East Kootenay field, which includes the Crowsnest Pass districts, the figures show that the United States acquires a large bulk of the output from these mines, namely, sold as coal in Canada, 82,653 tons; sold as coal in the United States, 252,948 tons, out of a total of 617,961 tons. In addition to the foregoing, 278,589 tons were used in the province for the manufacture of coke.

#### B.C. Housing Act.

British Columbia is the only western province without a Town Planning Act, but it is intended that an Act will be introduced at the next meeting of the Legislature. A Housing Act has been prepared for the province and is now in operation. Hon. T. D. Patullo, Minister of Lands, is in charge of the administration of the Act, and it is likely that British Columbia will be able to show exceptionally good results in the promotion of better housing, as stated in Conservation of Life, issued by the Commission of Conservation.

#### Housing in Manitoba.

The Housing Act and the housing scheme of Manitoba are now law. Owing to the strike there has been some delay in starting operations in Winnipeg where the housing shortage is acute, according to Conservation of Life, issued by the Commission of Conservation.

War Savings Stamps pay 4½% compounded half-yearly.