

SOUTH AMERICA

THE fields from which the best grades of coal are obtained appear to be those along the Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico, and are generally of Tertiary age.

PALÆOZOIC COALS

Permo-Carboniferous coal-bearing deposits occur east of the Andes; they outcrop in southern and eastern Brazil and underlie part of Uruguay (where the coal may be mineable) and possibly a large part of Argentina. The most westerly outcrops of the Permo-Carboniferous are probably those in Bolivia and in isolated localities east of the Andes in Argentina, but it is doubtful if the formation there contains many valuable coal-seams. This series has been correlated with the Karroo system of South Africa.

TERTIARY COALS

Tertiary coals are found in the coastal zone in southern Argentina and Chili, and in the mountainous regions of Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and northern Venezuela.

Coal-seams supposed to be of bituminous origin are found in western Argentina and Venezuela.

ESTIMATE OF THE COAL RESERVES OF SOUTH AMERICA

IN MILLION TONS

	CLASS A	CLASSES B & C	CLASS D	TOTALS
	Anthracitic Coals, including some Dry Coals	Bituminous Coals	Sub-bituminous Coals, Brown- coals and Lignites	
Colombia.....	....	27,000	....	27,000
Venezuela.....	....	5	....	5
Peru.....	700	1,339	....	2,039
Argentina.....	....	5	....	5
Chili.....	....	3,048	....	3,048
Total.....	700	31,397	....	32,097

Actual Reserve..... 2,087 million tons

Probable Reserve..... 32,010 "

Total estimated Reserve..... 32,097 million tons