

Moose Mountain area, lying outside the first range of the Rocky mountains, consists of a narrow band encircling this outlying mountain. It extends from near the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway, south to Sheep creek. Its area is estimated at 15 square miles, with a thickness of 15 feet of coal in the section. This would give a probable coal content for the area of 150,000,000 tons.

Cascade area is a long strip between the ranges, containing workable seams for about 40 miles of its length. It is estimated to contain about 400,000,000 tons of anthracite, and of the softer grades 1,200,000,000 tons.

Palliser area, on Panther river, is comparatively small, but with an area of perhaps six square miles has, possibly, a coal content of 20,000,000 tons.

Costigan area lies east of Palliser, and is estimated in 12 square miles to possibly contain 60,000,000 tons—mostly bituminous coal.

Bighorn area, between the Saskatchewan and Brazeau rivers, is estimated at 60 square miles, with a content of at least 1,400,000,000 tons.

Belly River Formation: Area and Coal Content.

The coals that belong to this horizon, grade generally between lignite and bituminous, and are found over an enormous area. Roughly measured on the map, this area is about 25,000 square miles. An estimate on this basis would, however, be very misleading; since portions are known to be either unproductive, or, to contain only small seams of inferior coal; 5,000 square miles might be assumed as being reasonably valuable. Four feet of coal underlying this area would furnish 13,000,000,000 tons. Most of the productive value is in Alberta. The amounts contained in the two provinces, respectively, may be estimated at 10,000,000,000 for Alberta; and 3,000,000,000 for Saskatchewan.

The Edmonton Formation: Area in Alberta.

The coals of this formation are generally lignites; but in the foothills grade up to bituminous. The foothill areas, though but narrow bands, have a length of about 400 miles, and thus may have an exposed area of possibly 2,000 square miles. This has been estimated to have possibly 11,000,000,000 tons as a total content.

The eastern outcrop produces lignites that, in some places are almost lignite coals. The area is enormous, and only that portion between the Bow river and Edmonton is included in the estimate. This embraces a surface of 10,800 square miles, which is estimated to have 6 feet of coal below it—at a workable depth. Deduced from these premises the possible content would be 60,000,000,000 tons.

The total for the formation is, therefore, an area of 12,800 square miles, and a coal content of 71,000,000,000 tons.

The Laramie Formation: Area in Saskatchewan.

The coals of this formation are all lignites. The Souris area, of eight townships, is estimated to contain 2,000,000,000 tons; while the remaining portion lying to the west—consisting of 4,000 square miles—has possibilities up to about 13,000,000,000 tons; a total for the area of 15,000,000,000 tons.

The Laramie Formation: Area in Manitoba.

The Turtle Mountain area in the southern portion of the province has an available area of 48 square miles, probably coal-bearing, which with 4 feet of coal, represents a possible total of 160,000,000 tons.