

Alberta.

The Province of Alberta is fast taking her place as a coal producer. The output for the last three years indicates the growth of coal mining:—

1905	811,228 tons
1906	1,385,000 "
1907	1,534,001 "

The output of 1906 was classified thus:

Lignite coal	602,780 tons
Bituminous coal	546,623 "
Anthracite coal	235,597 "
Coal used in coke production	103,936 "
Coke produced	69,844 "

In the same year there were 61 mines in operation, of which 16 had been opened within the year.

The Pacific Coal Company at Bankhead, the International Coal and Coke Company at Coleman, the Canadian American Coal and Coke Company at Frank, the Hillcrest Coal and Coke Company at Hillcrest, the West Canadian Collieries at Blairmore, the Breckenridge and Lund Coal Company at Lundbreck, the Canada West Coal and Coke Company at Taber, and the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company at Lethbridge are the principal operating concerns.

The coal seams range from 3 feet to 15 feet. Safety lamps are in general use. A good system of inspection is carried on by the Provincial Government.

Coke for the smelters of south-eastern British Columbia is made at Coleman by the International Coal and Coke Company, which is one of their chief sources of supply. At the Lille mine of the West Canadian Collieries, six miles north of Frank, a battery of Bernard ovens is in commission.

Most of the companies mentioned above have completed or are completing elaborate modern overground equipments.

Climatic and labour conditions are good in Alberta. Coal miner's wages range from \$3.50 per day for fire-bosses and special classes of miners to \$2.50 for drivers, helpers, loaders, etc.

Natural gas has been found near Medicine Hat, Calgary, and Edmonton. Oil has been prospected for with some slight success in the southern part of the Province.

The Province of Saskatchewan produced 153,914 tons of coal in 1907. Much of this is lignite.