MESOZOIC COALS

Triassic deposits containing coal-seams are found in western and southern Mexico and in North Carolina and Virginia. Jurassic deposits containing coal are reported on the east coast of Greenland and on the Arctic coast of Alaska. In western Canada the deposits that immediately succeed the marine Jurassic are specially rich in coal beds and form important coal-fields in British Columbia, the Yukon Territory and the Rocky Mountain region of Alberta. They are referred to the Lower Cretaceous and are succeeded by marine and fresh-water deposits of Cretaceous age which, over great areas of the interior plains and in the Rocky mountains south of the Canadian line, are coal-bearing at several horizons. The coal found on the islands off the coast of British Columbia belongs to the Middle and Upper Cretaceous. The Cretaceous-Tertiary transition beds of the interior are especially rich in coal deposits in the northern plains of the United States and in Alberta. Deposits of similar age are found in northern Mexico, in the Yukon and Colville River basins and on the west coast of Greenland.

TERTIARY COALS

Tertiary deposits in which coal is found (generally in the form of lignite) have a wide distribution. Most of the coal-fields of central America and the Gulf region of Mexico and the United States, large areas in the northern plains of the United States and Canada, isolated areas in the Pacific coast States and in British Columbia, a large area in Alaska and areas on the Arctic coast and islands, belong to the Eocene. Miocene beds occasionally contain coal in the Rocky mountains and Mexico. Recent deposits approaching lignite are found in northern Ontario and southern British Columbia.

ESTIMATE OF THE COAL RESERVES OF NORTH 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	
Newfoundland	.....	500	....	500
Canada	2,158	283,661	948,450	1,234,269
United States	19,684	1,955,521	1,863,452	3,838,657
Central America	......	1	4	5
Total	21,842	2,239,683	2,811,906	5,073,431