

THE COAL RESOURCES OF DENMARK

(Including Iceland and the Færoes)

BY

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(With five figures in the text)

NOWHERE in Denmark (including Iceland and the Færoes) is there any coal-mining worth mentioning at the present time; in Iceland and the Færoes inconsiderable quantities are mined by the inhabitants for use on the spot. All the coal found in Denmark (including Iceland and the Færoes) is lignite, belonging to Class D of the scheme.

In Denmark itself (Jutland Peninsula, the islands Sealand, Funen, Lolland, Falster, Bornholm, etc.), coal only occurs in Jutland and on Bornholm, in the Tertiary (Lower Miocene) and the Rhætic-Lias. The extent of the coal-seams in horizontal direction, or their thickness, is nowhere so exactly known that the amount of the coal-supply can be given with any approach to accuracy.

In Jutland, only a few small mining experiments have been undertaken, and a few experimental borings made to no great depth; one boring has been carried down to 78 m., but in most cases of boring for coal the depth reached has not been greater than 20-30 m. from the surface.

On Bornholm, mining for coal has at times been carried on to a somewhat large extent. About the middle of the nineteenth century there were three comparatively large collieries between Ronne and Hasle, each with a yearly production of ca. 20,000 Tdr. (2,600 metric tons), but these were closed in 1868, 1876, and 1880, and no mining has been done since. The deepest borings were carried down to a depth of ca. 60 m. below the surface, but most of the mining was at a considerably higher level.

JUTLAND

The occurrence of coal in Jutland is closely connected with the Miocene micaceous clay; from chance borings for water a number of places where coal occurred became known within a district of Jutland which is indicated by shading in the accompanying map; this district is ca. 5,000 square km. in extent. On a small area of a few square km. at Sandfeldgaard, a somewhat more systematic investigation of the coal occurrences was made in 1906 by Mr. A. L. Gebhardt and the author, but only to a slight depth, the borings being carried no farther