

*The Eureka Coal and Brick Copmany, of Estevan.*

Operating in tp. 2, range 6, west of 2nd meridian. Output about 100 tons per day.

*The Roche Percee Coal Mining Company, of Roche Percee.*

Operating in the same vicinity, with an output of about 150 tons per day.

Ten other small mines are working in the winter as a rule, in the vicinity of Estevan and the Souris mines, with an estimated output of 200 tons per day, for this period.

Q. Have any of these analyses been made by the department here?—A. A number of them. They will be found also at page 55 of my report on the coal fields of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Eastern British Columbia.

Mr. BROCK.—The first analyses are those of samples from the Kootenay coals, which are the higher grades—the anthracites and bituminous coals.

Q. Of course, the analyses here are of coal per se, and not from any other standpoint, such as tar, ammonia, &c.?—A. No, we drive off the moisture and weigh, and then the gas and weigh.

Q. Would it be worth while asking the Mines Department for an analyses of these various lignites, looking to what nitrogen they may carry, and sulphite of ammonia and by-products, more especially sulphite of ammonia, because the day will come when nitrogen will be required in the prairie country for the growth of wheat. They are exhausting the soil now considerably of nitrogen, especially where nitrogen is light. If this should be found a source of supply of nitrogen for the farm it would be an important matter?—A. We might be able to give you a few analyses in which you could get the nitrogen, but sulphite of ammonia I would imagine was almost a by-product. The experiment might be tried.

Mr. BROCK.—I think it would be better to send the request directly to Dr. Haanel.

Dr. DOWLING.—It is in line with other investigations he is taking up

The CHAIRMAN.—Take your report—nobody ever sees it.

Dr. BROCK.—That edition has been pretty widely distributed. It only came out last November. There was a large edition, and it is now nearly exhausted.

The CHAIRMAN.—I am speaking of reports generally, they do not reach the public, but if public attention could be called to your reports by a committee here every year, they would have a wider distribution. I have an idea that bit by bit this country will be investigated for minerals, and the reports should be put in pamphlet shape and distributed in large numbers, and parliament would be in a position to ask their experts to condense the information for public distribution.

Dr. BROCK.—The distribution of such information is very difficult. It is almost impossible to get our reports into the hands of all those who might be interested in them. We do what we can in that respect. We send large numbers of copies of the report on any particular district to local men that are interested to distribute. For instance, we have sent out some hundreds of copies of this report to the Provincial Government at Edmonton, asking them to assist in the distribution. We advertise the publications in the *Mining Journal*. We get out a bulletin giving a description of the reports issued and send the bulletin to the leading newspapers of the country, and to the individuals who have asked to be put on our notice list. A great many newspapers published these bulletins as news items, and that gives the public knowledge of what has been published and how it obtained it. We send copies to the various mining recorders of districts to which our reports refer, and to the mining recorders in neighbouring districts, to get them into the hands of the public, but of course a great many people still do not know. The work of a Committee like this, does a great deal towards making the facts public.