

INTRODUCTION

xxiii

Transvaal and Madagascar (Beaufort series) are probably Permian in age. In the Belgian Congo, rocks at approximately this horizon are thought to be Permo-Triassic.

MESOZOIC COALS

In the Cape of Good Hope and Natal the coal-bearing beds are confined to the Stormberg series which is of Rhætic age.

ESTIMATE OF THE COAL RESERVES OF AFRICA

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	
Belgian Congo.....	.....	90	900	990
Southern Nigeria.....	.....	.....	80	80
Rhodesia.....	2	493	74	569
Union of South Africa.....	11,660	44,540	.....	56,200
Total.....	11,662	45,123	1,054	57,839

Actual Reserve..... 499 million tons
Probable Reserve..... 57,340 "

Total estimated Reserve..... 57,839 million tons

NORTH AMERICA

This continent is particularly well supplied with fossil fuel, the Carboniferous deposits of the east and the Mesozoic and Tertiary deposits of the west containing about two thirds of the estimated coal reserve of the world.

PALÆOZOIC COALS

In the far north a large possible reserve is contained in beds supposed to lie below the marine limestone of the Carboniferous in that respect resembling the deposits of the Urals and the Moscow basin. Small deposits were also found in the Lower Carboniferous on the Alaska coast and in Nova Scotia. The Carboniferous coal-bearing formations of Europe are represented by the Pennsylvanian formation which underlies large areas in the eastern and central United States and smaller areas in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.