

by one of the railway companies. The gradual exhaustion of the more readily accessible material has led to the abandonment of the colliery by this company, and to the replacement of local fuel, both on the railway and for steam-raising purposes generally, by coal imported from the Bengal fields. The use of the coal mined at Dandot and at the smaller collieries of Pidh and Chittidan in the same neighbourhood, is now confined chiefly to brick and lime-burning. Owing to the variable nature of the seams, it is impossible to make any estimate of the amount of coal available in this part of the Salt range, but the total amount is probably small. It was thought that the seams might extend far to the north beneath the plateaux of the central part of the range, but boring recently put down on one of these plateaux afforded no justification for such a belief.

Farther westward, at Isa Khel on the right bank of the Indus, a seam $2\frac{1}{4}$ feet thick has been proved over an area of $\frac{2}{3}$ square miles, the amount of coal available being $1\frac{1}{2}$ million tons.

RAJPUTANA

The only coal mine in Rajputana is that of Palana in Bikanir, where well-sinking operations some years ago resulted in the discovery of a band of lignite in Tertiary sandstone, at a depth of a little over 200 feet below the surface. The following figures have been supplied to me by Mr. Jervis:

DISTRICT	COAL-SEAMS		ACTUAL RESERVE (Calculation based on actual thickness and extent)		
	No.	Thickness	Area	Class of Coal	Metric Tons
Palana.....	1	20 ft.	$\frac{1}{3}$ sq. m.	D ₁	1,250,000

COAL IN COUNTRIES ADJACENT TO INDIA

AFGHANISTAN

Coal occurs in considerable quantity in the neighbourhood of Chahil and Shisha Alang in Afghan Turkistan. Numerous outcrops have been recorded over a large area, but no exploratory work whatever has been done. So far as is known, the quality of the coal is good, and certain seams are said to be over ten feet thick, but nothing more is known about them.

TIBET

From a geological point of view Tibet is still, to a large extent, a sealed book, but no coal is known in such parts as have been visited; did any occur in the country, it is highly probable that one or other of the many travellers would have heard of it.