

Coal in British Columbia and Alberta



British Columbia's resources of coal are one of the most important of the Dominion's coal supply and represent 1,023 of the total estimated resource of the globe. The total tonnage of the deposits underlying British Columbia forests is 83,328 million tons, which is made up of 670 million tons of anthracite, 77,290 of bituminous, and 5,668 of lignite. The actual reserves in the province are semi-anthracite 1.9 per cent; bituminous, 85.4 per cent; low carbon bituminous, 13.3 per cent; cannel, 2.4 per cent; lignitic, 7.0 per cent.

At present there are three main districts where mining operations are being actively pursued. These are the Crow's Nest, Pass region, in the eastern part of the province; the Nicola Valley district in the central part; and the eastern side of Vancouver Island. Besides these other coal basins are known, and more or less prospected, but the lack of transport and communication have hampered any extensive development yet they constitute a reserve of great possibility.

The Crow's Nest coal field is the most important body of coal being mined in British Columbia, and includes an area of 290 square miles. The coal is high grade bituminous, occasionally running into anthracite, averaging 64 per cent fixed carbon. There are 22 workable seams with a total thickness of 216 feet, 100 feet of which is estimated as workable. In addition to this there are other coal-bearing areas in southern British Columbia.

The Nicola Valley, at Princeton, where there is a field of 50 square miles, and at Nicola, where seams from 6 to 12 feet have been taken out. The Nicola coal is sub-bituminous and analysis about 47 per cent fixed carbon, 29 per cent volatile, and 4 per cent ash.

The total in Vancouver Island underlain by coal seams is about 600 square miles and these coal fields cover a considerable part of the coast of the Pacific coast. The coal of the Comox field is of high grade bituminous, and contains 67.2 per cent fixed carbon, the highest carbon content of all the Vancouver Island coals.

The Nanaimo field has a productive area of 60 square miles, though the seams underlain by coal seams are larger than this. The coal fields of the Queen Charlotte Islands range from semi-anthracite to low-carbon bituminous in their deposits, whilst lignite is also found.

In Central British Columbia lignite is found at Alexandria, Questad, and Prince George on the Fraser, on the Nazko river, Nechako river, Deas river, and Lightening creek. Three rich bearing seams exist on the Morice river, and three on Goat river.

In the Northern part of the province the most important coals thus far discovered are the semi-anthracite and the anthracites of the Grounding Mountain area. Here, an area of 179 square miles is assumed to be coal-bearing, and contains eight seams with an aggregate thickness of 30 feet.

The location of the British Columbia coal fields has a great bearing on their importance. One of the most productive mines of the Dominion is situated on the seaboard of the Pacific coast, which is of the greatest importance from an industrial and im-

(1) At the Coal Mines, Lethbridge, Alta.
(2) Coal Mine Building, Fernie, B.C.
(3) Coal Mine Loading Shed, Fernie, B.C.

portant standpoint. The mine has a considerable submarine extension, and is fortunate in possessing a fine natural harbor. Another fine field, also, is admirably located in the proximity of the metal mining industry and within easy reach of the copper and lead smelting centres of both the southern part of the Province and the adjoining states to the south.

With the United States leading in her possession of a trifle more than one half of the world's coal deposits, Canada ranks easily second with nearly one-fifth of the globe's total supply of this mineral. Nearly ninety per cent of Canada's coal supply lies within the confines of the province of Alberta, or about one-seventh of the resources of the world.

In tonnage the enormous deposits of the prairie province total 1,182,571 million tons, which may be subdivided into 1,182 million tons of anthracite, 217,533 million tons of bituminous, and 962,796 million tons of lignite. This may be compared with the world's total reserve of 7,397,553 metric tons, or the United States of 4,231,352 million tons.

Alberta possesses by far the most extensive coal area of Canada. The greater part of the southeastern part of the province appears to be underlain with coal, and the miserable coal areas of the province have been estimated at not less than 30,000 square miles.

The coal horizons of Alberta are, (1) Edmonton and Paskapoo formations; (2) Belly River formation; (3) Kootenay formation. The Edmonton formation forms a wide trough ap-

proximately parallel to the Rockies and extending from the international boundary to about latitude 55°. It is estimated that in these beds there are 739,890 million tons of lignitic or sub-bituminous coal, and 11,558 million tons of low-carbon bituminous coal.

The Kootenay formation is exposed in and near the Rocky Mountains and is estimated as 1.7 per cent semi-anthracite, and 98.3 per cent high carbon bituminous or bituminous.

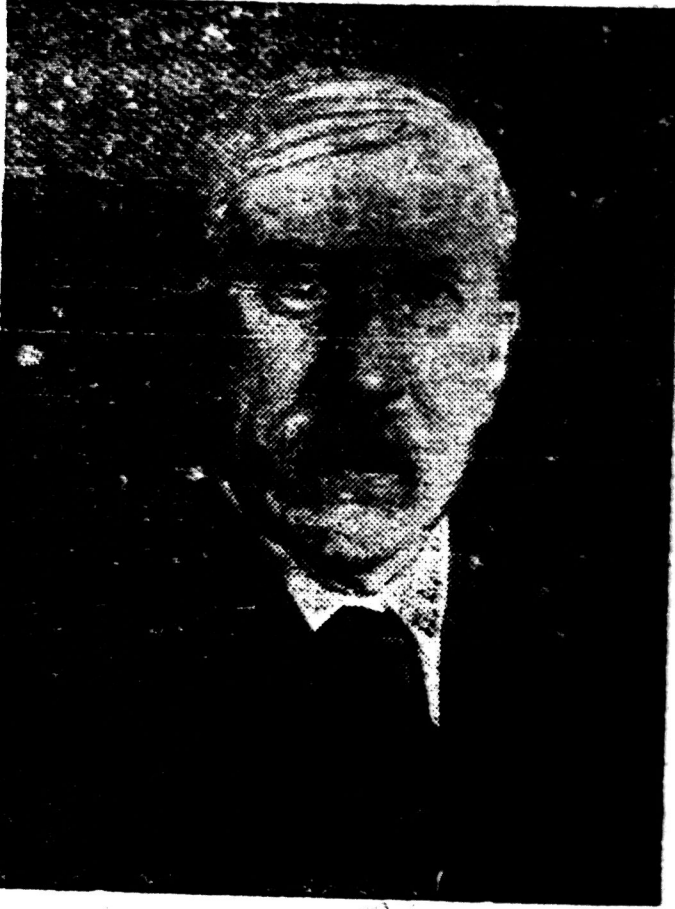
The production of the anthracite field, of which Banff is the centre, for the year 1917, was 108,225 tons which represents 2.3 per cent of the province's total output. The total amount of bituminous coal produced from Alberta mines was 2,199,305 tons or 46.4 per cent of output. The lignite production formed more than one half of the province's coal production with 2,429,928 tons or 51.3 per cent.

It has been estimated that the Alberta deposits of coal could supply the whole world's needs, at its present rate of consumption for nearly a thousand years.

As seen from these figures the coal resources of the Province of Alberta are barely being tapped, whilst Canada is yearly importing more coal from the United States than her own mines are producing.

Mark Twain of Canada

In the days when interesting people came to Canada to find it freshly interesting, there was nobody could reveal the spirit of the land to them like George Ham of the C.P.R. It is said he put Major Pond of the United States out of business. Why go on a wearisome lecture tour under that impressive-sounding name when George Ham could transport you to Winnipeg and on through the delights of the Rockies in all the comfort of a sumptuous coach? Great personages beseech him to call them by their first names. He has loaned matches to kings and potentates and autographed photographs of his features for admiring authorities of best sellers.



MR. GEORGE HAM.

There did once seem to be a time when the truly great would not venture to come to Canada without first ascertaining whether George Ham could receive them. He is said to have got so "fed up" with dukes and royal bodies that he did not mind, for a change, escorting untitled personalities of international fame. Many men whose signatures command imperious power would no more think of neglecting a royal in Whist's Whoe, when he arrives in London the court circular has to be enlarged to publish the invitations issued in his honor. Now he has achieved the signal honor of an unpaid-for mention in the exclusive Morning Post. It feels relieved to know that even if the League of Nations be jeopardized, the official entertainer of the C. P. R. is keeping his health and retelling in his high spirits. This Twain of Canada. It claims his fees are beyond computation. He will yet go down to fame as having originated one joke. He has been as generous with his humor as he has been a profitable acquaintance for professional jokemakers. As he never has patented any of his inimitable quips he often laughs at them when he hears them on the stage, until he realizes that they were of his own making. You may have heard of the Cincinnati millionaire he took to Muskoka. While there the plutocrat was attacked by brigands from Toronto. The chief brigand later complained to the police that the encounter Ham was not out with his Cincinnati charge when the watch and chain were stolen. Thousands of personages who have enjoyed seeing Canada have testified to how much their enjoyment was due to his kindly wit and indefatigable attention. They have paid tribute to the courtesies he knows so well how to extend in behalf of his railway. But perhaps one of the best tributes ever paid this incommensurable humorist of the railway ties, was a copy of verses by Mr. Neil Munro, the Scottish author. He sang how George Ham had "freighted laughter ten thousand miles," when acting as uncle, aunt, brother, father and grandfather to a party of British scribes. They think in Britain that not to have known George Ham of the C. P. R. is to display ignorance of the Empire's geography.

DESTITUTION IN EUROPE TERRIBLE

Long Processions of Starving, Ill-Clad Children Seen Daily on the Streets.

Long processions of little Jewish children in Eastern Europe, bearing their tin cups in their hands, daily walk from their villages to the nearest town in which there is a Jewish relief station, according to relief workers in these stricken lands, sometimes journeying five or six miles in order to get the cup of soup with a piece of hardtack, or the mug of milk which is often their sole food of the day.

Those tin-cup processions emphasize, as nothing else could do, the relief workers say, the terrible destitution of the Jews in Eastern Europe at present. The children in them are barefoot, almost without exception.

Reports received by the Canadian Jewish War Relief Committee say that both boys and girls are wrapped in burlap, or dressed in clothing made from the sacks in which the relief supplies have come, or in the rags which they have worn during the five years of the war, their gaunt little bodies showing through the tatters. They do not walk as children usually do, without effort or restraint, but drag themselves along wearily, and hopelessly, like tired little ghosts condemned to move in hungry processions throughout eternity. Arrived at the relief station, the children are so tired and so weak that they sit down upon the pavements to await their turn in line. Upon the faces of every one of them there is an expression of unchildlike anxiety. It has to do with the only really vital question in the world to them—whether or not the soup or milk will hold out, until their turn comes. Every day some of them have to be turned away without food, since their numbers are so great that the funds at present on hand are not always sufficient to care for them all.

MILLION CHILDREN ARE CLAD IN RAGS

Their Wasted Bodies Show Thru Tatters, Result of Starvation and Misery.

The art of making two flowers bloom where only one bloomed before isn't half so hard as that of making two garments exist where only one existed before; yet even this can be accomplished, according to reports recently received by the Canadian Jewish War Relief Committee from relief workers abroad.

Cloth of any kind, either cotton or wool, is particularly impossible to obtain in Eastern Europe, except at prohibitive prices. A round million little Jewish children in these unhappy lands are clad in the rags that they have worn all through the war, their wasted little bodies showing through great tatters. Some of these children are still sleeping on the streets, since there are at present neither orphanages nor funds for all.

Miss Harriet B. Lowenstein, of New York, sent to Europe as a commissioner of the Joint Distribution Committee of American Funds for Jewish War Sufferers, was able to purchase more than a carload of pajamas from the salvage department of the American army in France. These were sent to Eastern Europe, and in the workrooms opened there were made over into clothing for children.

Each pair of pajamas made at least two Russian blouse suits for little boys it was reported. The larger pieces left over in the cutting were used for the cloths that the children of Eastern Europe bind around their feet in lieu of shoes.

MILLION PAIRS OF SHOES ARE NEEDED

Destitute Jewish Children of Eastern Europe Use Rags to Protect Feet From the Cold.

A million pairs of shoes are needed by the destitute Jewish children of Eastern Europe to-day, according to reports received by the Canadian Jewish War Relief Committee from relief workers abroad.

At least that many of the helpless and hungry Jewish youngsters of Eastern Europe are absolutely without footwear of any kind, their relief agents say. Thousands of others have rags sewn around their feet in lieu of shoes.

Several carloads of shoes that formerly belonged to Allied soldiers in France were purchased there by the Joint Distribution Committee of Funds for Jewish Sufferers from the War, for the Jewish women of Eastern Europe. But it was impossible to buy the shoes in sizes that could be worn by the children, and all others sold in Europe are at a prohibitive price. So a million youngsters are barefoot during the hard winter of Eastern Europe.

There is a great lack of every conceivable kind of clothing, as well as shoes. In Serbia, a common child's costume just now consists of two sacks, with holes cut through for the head and feet. In Poland, four sacks and sugar sacks sent with supplies to the destitute Jews by Jewish relief agencies are all being made over into clothing, and even small salt sacks are placed together, and used for this purpose.

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