

4.—Non-Metallic Minerals.

1.—Coal.

The fuel situation of Canada is somewhat anomalous; as in spite of the enormous resources of coal in the country, about 50 p.c. of the consumption is imported from the United States. The Canadian coal areas are situated in the eastern and western provinces, while Ontario and Quebec are more easily and economically supplied with coal from the nearer coal fields of Pennsylvania and Ohio.* The anomaly of the situation is heightened if we consider that Canada's present coal consumption is about 35,000,000 tons annually, as against reserves of 1,234,289,000,000 metric tons, sufficient for an unthinkably long period at the present rate of consumption.

Coal Resources.—A summary of the known coal resources of Canada was given on pages 391 to 394 of the 1922-23 Year Book; the accompanying table is reproduced as Table 27.

27.—Coal Resources of Canada, by Provinces and Classes of Coal.¹

(In metric tons of 2,204 pounds.)

Provinces or Districts.	Including seams of 1 foot or over to a depth of 4,000 feet.					Including seams of 2 feet and over, at depths between 4,000 and 6,000 feet.	
	Actual Reserve.			Probable Reserve.		Probable Reserve.	
	Calculation based on actual thickness and extent.			Approximate estimate.		Approximate estimate.	
	Area, sq. miles.	Class of Coal. ³	Thousands of tons.	Area, sq. miles.	Thousands of tons.	Area, sq. miles.	Thousands of tons.
Nova Scotia.....	174	B	2,188,151	204	4,911,817	73	2,639,000
New Brunswick.....	-	B	-	121	151,000	-	-
Ontario.....	-	L	-	10	25,000	-	-
Manitoba.....	-	L	-	48	160,000	-	-
Saskatchewan.....	306	L	2,412,000	13,100	57,400,000	-	-
Alberta.....	25,300	L	382,500,000	56,375	491,271,000	203	12,700,000
		B	3,223,800		182,183,600		
		A & B	669,000		100,000		
British Columbia.....	439	A & B	23,771,242	6,196	44,907,700	11	2,160,000
		L	60,000		5,136,000		
Yukon.....		A & B	-	2,840	250,000		
		L	-		4,690,000		
Northwest Territories..	-	L	-	300	4,800,000	-	-
Arctic Islands.....	-	B	-	6,000	6,000,000	-	-
Total.....	26,219	-	414,804,193²	85,194	801,986,117	287	17,499,000

¹ See "Coal, Coke and By-products," published by the Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau.

² The coal of all classes mined in Alberta to 1911, amounting to 20,000,000 tons, has been deducted.

³ A=Anthracite, B=Bituminous, L=Lignite.

In view of the abnormal conditions prevailing in Canada during the later years of the war period, and also of the falling-off of production in the United States, the Government, on July 12, 1917, appointed a Fuel Controller for Canada, charging him in the first place with the duty of stimulating shipments to Canada, and eventually extending his powers until they included the work of controlling prices and directing coal-mining operations in Canada. The Fuel Controller concluded

* See map showing the sources of the coal supply of different parts of Canada, p. 386 of 1922-23 Year Book.