

and Brooks. The coals from most of these areas are classified as Sub-bituminous "A", "B" and "C" ranks, except those in the Lethbridge and Magrath areas which being closer to the mountain front have been raised to the rank of High Volatile "B" Bituminous coals.

The coal deposits of the Inner Plains Region belong largely to the Edmonton formation of Upper Cretaceous age. They occur in 15 of the coal areas of Alberta and, in 1945, produced a total of 2,657,921 tons, of which the Edmonton district produced 408,306 tons and the Drumheller district 1,722,667 tons. The coal of the Edmonton region is classed as Sub-bituminous "C" and that of the Drumheller as Sub-bituminous "B" coal.

British Columbia.—The coal deposits of British Columbia occur in formations of three geological ages, Lower Cretaceous, Upper Cretaceous and Tertiary. The Lower Cretaceous deposits are the most important with respect to both present and future development. They include: the coalfields of the Crowsnest district in southeastern British Columbia; the coalfields of the Peace River district in north-eastern British Columbia; and those of the Telkwa, Groundhog and numerous other small bituminous coal basins in northern and northwestern British Columbia. In 1945 the production from the Crowsnest district coming wholly from Michel, Coal Creek and Elk River Collieries, amounted to 974,000 tons, the production from the Telkwa Coal Basin amounted to 78,561 tons, and from Hasler Creek Mine amounted to 3,547 tons. The coal mined in the Crowsnest district is classed as Medium Volatile Bituminous coal, that of the Telkwa Basin as High Volatile "A" Bituminous coal, and that of the Peace River district as Low Volatile Bituminous coal. Where igneous intrusions occur, as in the Lake Kathlyn and Groundhog areas, the coals have been raised to Anthracitic rank.

The coal deposits of Upper Cretaceous age are restricted to the Coastal Region, and embrace the Nanaimo, Comox, Tsable River and Suquash coalfields of Vancouver Island, and the Yakoun River coal area of Graham Island. The mining of these deposits is confined to the Nanaimo and Cumberland areas which in 1945 produced 623,950 tons. The coal mined in these areas is classed as High Volatile "A" Bituminous. The reserves of the Nanaimo field are small, and the main production in the future will have to come largely from the Comox and Tsable River deposits. Geological data pertaining to the extent of these deposits are too meagre to estimate their available reserves.

Coal deposits of Tertiary age occur in numerous small basins in southern, central and northwestern British Columbia, and underlie a large area in the northern part of Graham Island. The deposits include those at Princeton, Tulameen, Merritt, White Lake, Hat Creek, North Kamloops, Coal Creek, Bowron, Stikine River and Liard River coal areas. The coals are largely Lignite and Sub-bituminous, but in a few localities as at White Lake where the coal seams have been invaded by igneous dykes and covered by lava flows, the coal in the immediate vicinity of the intrusion has been raised to Bituminous or even Anthracitic rank. Mining of these deposits in 1945 was largely restricted to the Tulameen and Merritt deposits, which produced 63,000 tons.

The total production for British Columbia in 1945 amounted to 1,699,780 tons.