
Coal near Brisbane. Summary of Prospecting Work to date is copyright by Edward O. Marks 1910.

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Search for Coal near Brisbane.

SUMMARY OF PROSPECTING WORK DONE TO DATE.

The following summary, made by Mr. E. O. Marks, Assistant Government Geologist, in a memo to the Under Secretary for Mines, of prospecting work done up to the present time in search of coal near Brisbane, will be of interest to readers, and possibly prove of some practical use. -

Thin coal has been met with in wells and shallow shafts in the neighbourhood of Redland Park and Chermside, on the Gympie road.

At Nundah a seam of coal 3 ft. 6 in. thick, including 3½ in. of bands, but disconnected by numerous small faults, is being worked, and boring operations are in progress. The coal is about to be cut by means of a jumbo drill, and the record must in consequence be received with a certain amount of reserve.

A 2½-ft. seam was worked from the river bank at Queenbank near the township of Nundah, recently by the new coal company, and coal seams up to 19 in. thick have been discovered within a depth of 100 ft.

In portion 16, parish of Bulimba, south-east of the above, an old coal seam 12 ft. thick has been found, and to have passed through several seams of coal, one of which was 6 ft. thick, but impure.

In portion 14 (Bulimba), near Murrarie Station, is another shaft, from the debris around which they worked, the coal seam is 4 ft. thick, but impure.

In portion 50, parish of Tingalpa, a mile south-east of Murrarie, coal up to 18 in. thick was obtained in Kelly's Claypit. A bore in the neighbouring portion (51) passed through 200 ft. of sandstone. Further prospecting operations are now being carried out.

In portion 129 (Tingalpa), near Lindum Station, a bore was put down to 1,081 ft. without entering the coal measures, at least 876 ft. being in sandstone.

Some prospecting has also been done near Tingalpa Creek in portions 343, 344, 345, and 31, but no information regarding this work is available beyond the fact that a shaft 75 ft. deep, as well as some boreholes of unknown depth, were put down. In portion 103, in the bank of the creek, is an outcrop of impure friable coal, possibly 18 in. thick.

A shaft was sunk by the late H. J. C. Reussler, in portion 357 (Tingalpa), several seams of coal being passed through from 4 in. to 9 in. in thickness. Coal was washed out of the waterholes at Broadwater Bridge by a flood many years ago, and gave rise to some prospecting in the vicinity. No record is now obtainable of the operations, which were probably not of a serious character.

In portions 266 and 267, parish of Bulimba, are two shafts, one of which cut 18 in. of impure coal.

Gold Production in the Philippines—Gold was produced in the Philippines Islands to the amount of 75,000 dollars in 1907, 200,000 dollars in 1908, and to a much larger sum in 1909. Dredging in particular is proving profitable. The dredges in operation are of the New Zealand type, and are small. According to the report of the Bureau of Mines, one of them in the Paracale district in the year 1908, handled 50,344 cubic yards, from which 2,314 oz. of gold, worth 50,563 dollars, was recovered. The period of work extended from 25th May to 31st December. The placers are shallow and the bedrock a soft decomposed schist. The material is fine, 80 per cent passing through the screens. The black sand is valuable and is being saved for future concentration. Last year two more dredges were built in this district. In the B Regel and Masbate districts, quartz mining is attracting attention, and the operators are obtaining substantial results. The Mining Bureau is making an effort to attract the attention of American capitalists and miners. Coal of good quality is now available, the labour problem is proving relatively simple, and in general the mining laws are satisfactory.