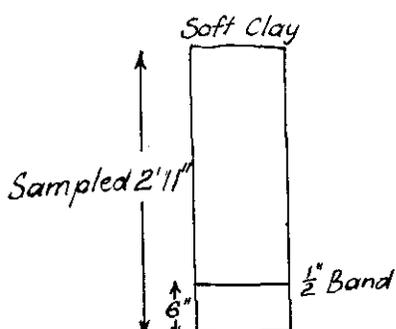


COAL NEAR MT. LLOYD. (2nd REPORT)

Early in 1952, I visited Mt. Lloyd Area in company with Mr. L. Teakle of New Norfolk to examine some coal seams that he had prospected. Although the coal was found to be of narrow width, in a rather inaccessible position and, in one case of poor quality, it did belong to the normal coal measures of the Triassic and warranted further prospecting, to determine whether seams of greater width, and closer to existing roads could be found. During the past three years, Mr. Teakle has undertaken extensive prospecting in the area, and opened up coal seams within half a mile of the existing road. The Mt. Lloyd Area is about 8 miles south west of New Norfolk, which is 20 miles by road from Hobart.

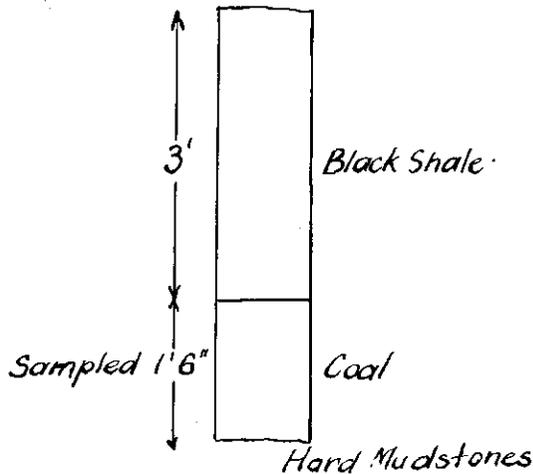
Several narrow seams have been exposed by small pits and, in one case, an adit, 40 feet in length, about two miles north-east of the previous prospecting. At this stage it is not possible to accurately correlate the various exposures, but it would appear that there are two seams within 15 feet of each other and a third, 65 feet below. The two upper seams were sampled from small cuts, and it is assumed that the adit has been put in on the lower of these seams. A third sample was taken from a hole into which water seeps. This seam was stated to be 3'6" in width but I was only able to sample 2'10". Details of these samples are as follows:-

No. 1	Moisture	4.6%
	V.C.M.	15.9%
	F.C.	50.5%
	Ash	29.0%
	Sulphur	0.28%
	Calorific Value	9480 B.Th.U's
	Sp.Gr.	1.54



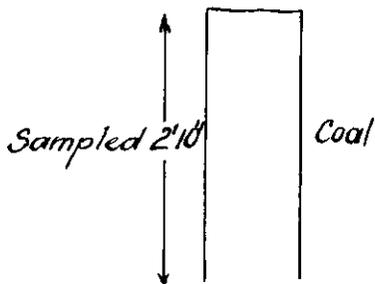
No. 2

Moisture	3.3%
V.C.M.	19.0
F.C.	55.5
Ash	22.2
Sulphur	0.5
Calorific Value	10950 B.Th.U's
Sp. Gr.	1.50



No. 3

Moisture	3.1
V.C.M.	18.3
F.C.	50.8
Ash	27.8
Sulphur	0.32
Calorific Value	10090 B.Th.U's
Sp. Gr.	1.53



The coal seams are fairly flatly bedded, that in the adit having a dip of 5° to the south.

From surface indications, there does not seem to be a great deal of faulting and the dolerite intrusion appears to be in the form of a sill, well above the seams investigated. This area is much more accessible than the one seen earlier. A motor road, rough but passable, passes within half a mile and four to five hundred feet below the outcrops.

In attempting to correlate these seams with those known and mined in other parts of Tasmania, the two nearest coalfields at Sandfly and Hamilton may be considered. The Sandfly Coalfield is 17 miles south-east and the Hamilton field 20 miles north-west of Mt. Lloyd.

At Sandfly, if the correlation made by the authors of the Coal Resources of the seams found in the various bores and workings is correct, then these seams vary very much in thickness in quite a small area. All the seams are narrow and contain numerous bands of clay. They may be divided into three groups - the upper seams, Alpha and Beta, the latter of which was worked in the early days, the centre group, 300 feet below, some of which are now worked; and the lower group, 25 feet below these, which are too narrow to work. Samples taken from the various seams show values of the order of:-

	V.C.M.	F.C.	Ash
Beta	23%	49%	24%
Delta	8	63	26
Eta	13	62	21

At Hamilton, the seams named Alpha to Delta are all close together and apparently parts of all have been worked. A general analysis of the coal produced shows 56% F.C., 22% V.C.M., and 18% Ash. There are several narrow seams below this group.

It thus appears difficult to correlate the seams at Hamilton and Sandfly but it is possible that the seams worked at Hamilton correspond with the centre group at Sandfly and that the upper seams have been removed by erosion.

The coal at Mt. Lloyd approximates closest to the Sandfly deposits and the seams described as 1, 2 and 3 may correspond to the Gamma, Delta and Eta seams at Sandfly. Certainly both coals are low volatiles and the two top seams in each case are close together.

If these correlations are accepted, then it would appear that the best seams at Mt. Lloyd are those already seen and it is doubtful if they are wide enough for economic working. However, such assumptions are highly dangerous in dealing with areas so far apart and numerous bores put down in both the Hamilton and Sandfly areas show that no persistence in uniformity of width or distance apart of seams can be expected even within the narrow limits proved by the bores.

Mr. Teakle has strenuously and systematically prospected this area over a number of years and it is felt that no useful purpose could be served by further surface prospecting. There is only one way that the economic potentialities of the area can be assessed and that is by boring. If a boring campaign is instituted then I would suggest that the first bore be put in just above the adit, thus taking in the three known seams, and extended to a depth of the order of 300 feet, or until the felspathic sandstones have been passed through.

It seems that of the coal revealed by surface prospecting, the only deterrent is the width of the seams. The quality at outcrop is quite fair, mining by adits should present no great difficulties, there does not appear to be ever much faulting and a formed road within half a mile of the outcrop leads in fifteen miles, not only to hop growing areas, where low volatile coal is used but also to a large industrial undertaking using several hundred tons of coal per week.

(Sgd.) Terence D. Hughes

GEOLOGIST

Department of Mines,
HOBART.

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