

If an industry for the manufacture of rayon is established in the Dover Area, several hundred tons of coal would be required each week.

There are numerous outcrops and old workings for coal in the District but most appear to have some disadvantage which would preclude their economic recovery.

Two bore holes put down at Ida Bay failed to encounter reasonable coal seams but did give some information about the structure of the coal measures.

A report of a good seam on Adamson's Peak, led to an examination a few weeks ago but the outcrop proved disappointing.

While visiting Dover to examine this prospect opportunity was taken of examining and making enquiry about other seams.

ADAMSON'S PEAK COAL.

Location

Just below the plateau of this mountain several seams of coal may be seen in a small Creek bed a few chains to the north of the track leading to the Forestry Lookout. This is in distance about six miles from and over 2,000 feet above the new Forestry Road from Raminea up the Esperance Valley. There is no bridge across the Esperance where the track leaves the road and in winter the river is practically impassable at this locality.

Four separate seams of coal and black shale may be seen outcropping in the creek. The lowest is a one foot seam of coal dipping to the west at 5°. Twenty feet above this is 4 feet of coal with some black shale; twenty feet higher 2 feet of black shale and a further 25 feet to 18 inches of coal and shale. A sample was taken from the 4 feet seam but because of the water flowing over the only outcrop it was difficult to obtain a truly representative sample and, as the analysis shows, quite an amount of black shale must have been included in the sample, viz:-

Moisture	3.0%
V.C.M.	14.5
F.C.	36
Ash	46.5
Sulphur	0.47
Calorific value 7000 B. Th. U's.	

The high amount of ash plus the inaccessibility of the seam and the fact that it would be under the winter snowline seems to preclude its economic development.

The most interesting thing about these seams is their position in the geological sequence. They appear to occur in Permian rocks sandstones and shales, and may be correlated with the seams in the Cygnet District and in the North-West of the State.

The plateau itself is composed of Ross Sandstone, which these coal measures underlie while the normal coal measures in the Triassic rocks in Tasmania occur above the Ross Sandstones.

Triassic rocks outcrop in the Esperance River at the old tram crossing and on the plateau of Adamson's Peak but between these are at least two occurrences of Permian sediments separated by a third lot of Ross Sandstone showing that there are at least two great step faults in this district.

AREAS TO INVESTIGATE

1. Ida Bay Area

Before any further drilling is done here, an attempt should be made to trace the dolerite boundary west of the previous bores. Apparently both bores intersected a north-south fault and it is doubtful if there would be a sufficient extent of the coal measures between this and the dolerite.

2. Lune River Area

Coal has been reported in this area just north of the old timber tram and within half a mile of the main road. Some shallow shafts are now full of water. The plain country here is strewn with glacial debris and there is little in the way of outcrop. Because of its accessibility and the ease of getting a drill to the location I feel that a start could be made in this locality if a drill is again taken to this district.

3. Hastings Mine

Some investigation should be made of the country round these old workings to obtain information of the nearness of dolerite, possible faulting, etc.

4. Esperance and Strathblane Areas

These have been investigated by the Chief Geologist who states that the reserves would be too low to consider development. There are several adits, spread over a distance of more than a mile which all penetrate in different directions into the same hill. The core of this hill is dolerite with apparently a thin crust of coal measures all round it.

5. North of the Strathblane Mine

An adit (in coal) found by Mr. Cleves of the Forestry Department, while surveying a track and stated to be near the saddle between the Strathblane Mine and the old Raminea tram, should be investigated. There is no record of this in the Department and if it could be found, may be interesting.

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