

The Mouse River Lignite Coal Company has opened an extensive mine at Davis near Burlington, Ward county, on the "Soo" railway, about six miles north of Minot. The coal outcrops along the hillside from 60 to 150 feet below the surface. Tunnels have been run in from the side for a distance of about 2,000 feet. There are two openings with about 50 feet of coal left between them. After striking the coal, the tunnel follows the vein. This has an average dip of about two feet to 100 feet away from the entry, but this is not a uniform variation. The layer of coal used is about 1,540 feet above sea level; it is from 9 to 13 feet thick and almost solid, there being only a very thin layer of clay within this coal body. It is uncertain as to whether or not there are layers below the one worked, but there are two thin ones above, each about a foot thick.

Mouse River Lignite

This mine is systematically worked and has a large output. Compressed air coal cutters are employed, a fan system provides good ventilation, and the coal is removed by cable cars which run to loading chutes delivering the coal directly into the railway cars. From 60 to 100 men are employed.

The accompanying design will illustrate the formation at this mine. Analyses from several parts of the coal vein are also given.

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No. 3. From center of layer.

Volatile matter, per cent 32-72

Fixed carbon 52.21

Ash . 15-07

[graphic]