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SOMALILAND MINERALS.

Coal and Salt.

A sample of coal, obtained from a locality 53 miles east of Berbera, has been examined at the Imperial Institute. This coal resembles samples from Nigeria, which have already been examined at the Institute, but is not so good as the better qualities of the Nigeria coal. At present (according to a statement in the current number of the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute") it can be of value only for local use, but the deposit ought to be thoroughly examined in order to ascertain the extent and the general quality of the coal, which later on may possibly prove to be of great economic importance.

Samples of salt have also been received from Somaliland. These prove to be very similar in composition to most rock salts. Refined salt prepared from them at the Imperial Institute was of good colour, was not affected by exposure to air, and is declared to be generally suitable for culinary purposes.

Bulletin of the Imperial Institute (London)

Nr. 4

Somaliland Protectorate.—A seam of coal has been found in the bed and on both sides of the Hedhal Tug, the average thickness of which is 2 ft. 6 in., and the dip W. 5°. It occurs $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles up the tug in a tableland of sandstone overlaid by Eocene limestone. The outcrop has been traced for 100 yds. on one side of the tug, and for about 30 yds. on the other. According to samples analysed at the Imperial Institute, the coal is free-burning, with no tendency to coke, and in type and appearance is very similar to the coal of Udi colliery, Nigeria, although somewhat inferior to it in heating power. Every tug was to be examined in the cool season, which began in October last (*Mineral Possibilities of the Somaliland Protectorate*, by R. A. Farquharson, Governn. * Geologist, pp. 6, 7, March 1925).