

rental of 50 cents per area secures it from forfeiture for non-working. If an amount of work equivalent to 40 days per annum per area is performed on the lease, the rental for that year is refunded. A royalty is payable on all gold at the rate of 2 per cent, the gold being valued at \$19 an ounce smelted, and \$18 an ounce unsmelted, and at the rate of 2 per cent on the silver valued at \$1 per ounce.

In the case of the other minerals the payment of \$30 secures a license to search for 18 months over a tract of land 5 square miles in extent, and not exceeding $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length.

All ores and minerals, other than gold or gold and silver, mined are subject to the following royalties :—

Coal.—10 cents per ton of 2,240 pounds of coal sold or removed from the mine or used in the manufacture of coke—royalty not demanded on coal used by the workmen or in any mining operations in and around the mine.

Copper.—4 cents upon every unit, i.e., upon every one per cent of copper contained in each and every ton of 2,352 pounds of copper ore sold or smelted.

Lead.—2 cents upon every unit.

Iron.—5 cents on every ton of 2,240 pounds of ore sold or smelted.

Tin and precious stones and any other minerals that may be reserved, 5 per cent on their values.

The Governor in Council has power to lower the rates of royalty above stated on iron, copper, lead, tin and precious stones, on being satisfied that the owners of such leased minerals have commenced effective mining operations. The leases of coal mines contain a proviso that royalties on coal may be increased, diminished or otherwise changed by the legislature.

QUEBEC.

The mining laws of the province of Quebec provide that mining rights are property separate from the soil covering mines and minerals, unless the proprietor of the surface has purchased from the Crown, as a mining concession or otherwise, the underground properties.

Mining concessions are divided into three classes :

1. In unsurveyed territory (*a*) the first class contains 400 acres, (*b*) the second, 200 acres, and (*c*) the third, 100 acres.

2. In surveyed townships the three classes respectively comprise one, two and four lots.

All lands supposed to contain mines or ores belonging to the Crown may be acquired from the Minister of Lands, Mines and Fisheries (*a*) as a mining concession by purchase, or (*b*) be occupied and worked under a mining license.

No sale of mining concessions containing more than 400 acres in superficies can be made by the commissioner to the same person. The Governor in Council may, however, grant a larger extent of territory up to 1,000 acres under special circumstances. When it concerns inferior metals, the extent of mining concessions which may be granted to the same person is determined by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. 2 Ed. VII., c. 15.

The rates charged and to be paid in full at the time of the purchase are \$5 and \$10 per acre for mining lands containing the superior metals* ; the

* The superior metals include the ores of gold, silver, lead, copper, nickel, graphite, asbestos, mica and phosphate of lime. The words 'inferior metals' include all other minerals and ores.