

PRODUCTION.

Dominion Department of Mines.—According to the annual preliminary report of the Division of Mineral Resources and Statistics of the Dominion Department of Mines, the total value of the mineral products of Canada in the calendar year 1913 was \$144,031,047, as compared with \$135,048,296, the finally revised total of 1912. This report shows an increase of \$8,982,751, or 6.65 per cent. In view of the large increase over all previous years made in mineral production in 1912 and the general trade depression and industrial restriction experienced during the latter part of 1913 the industry would appear to have made in the aggregate very satisfactory progress. Labour strikes in Vancouver Island seriously restricted the coal output from that district. The total value of the metals was also somewhat smaller than it might otherwise have been, because of the slightly lower average prices obtained for copper and silver. A restricted demand was also reported during the latter part of the year for brick and other clay products and structural materials. While these are some of the influences that have tended to curtail the mineral output during the year, there have been, on the other hand, important increases in the production of gold, nickel, lead, asbestos, natural gas and amongst the metals in many of the other lesser valuable non-metal products and in cement, resulting in the net increase above stated. The production of the more important metals and minerals is shown in Table 37 in which the figures are given for the two calendar years 1912 and 1913, and the increase or decrease in value is shown.

Mineral Products in 1913.—Of the total production in 1913 a value of \$66,127,821, or 45.9 per cent., is credited to the metals, and \$77,903,226, or 54.1 per cent., to the non-metallic products. The increase over the value for 1912 in metallic products was \$4,955,068, or 8.1 per cent., and in non-metallic products \$4,027,683, or 5.45 per cent. There was an increased production of each of the metals except copper and silver, the most important increase being in gold with 28 per cent. Pig iron increased 11.3 per cent. in tonnage, lead 5.3 per cent., and nickel 10.8 per cent. The falling off in copper was only 1.1 per cent. in quantity although 7.6 per cent. in total value, and for silver 0.6 per cent. only in number of ounces and 2.3 per cent. in value, slightly lower average prices having been obtained for these metals. Amongst non-metallic products increases are shown in all the important products except clays and lime. The largest increase was in natural gas with 41 per cent. in value. The cement output was greater by 21 per cent. in quantity, asbestos 18 per cent., coal 4 per cent., gypsum 10.5 per cent., salt 6 per cent. In the case of petroleum there was a falling off of 6 per cent. in quantity, but on account of higher prices an increase of nearly 18 per cent. in total value. The decreases in clay products and lime were respectively 8.5 and 12.9 per cent.

Description of Tables.—Table 38 shows the quantity and value of each of the mineral products of Canada for the calendar years 1912 and 1913. Table 39 gives the value of the mineral production in Canada from 1886 to 1913, and shows how rapidly the industry has grown during that period. The value of the total output has increased from