

**Phosphate.**—A monograph on phosphate in Canada by H. S. SPENCE (2) appeared in 1921. A chapter is devoted to the manufacture of phosphorus products in Canada, but the greater part of the report is devoted to a description of apatite deposits of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. The history of phosphate mining in Canada shows that the industry flourished for a number of years. The discovery of the cheaply mined Florida deposits, however, had a serious effect upon the Canadian industry, and since about 1894 little phosphate has been produced except as a by-product in the mining of mica.

**Platinum.**—Owing to the increased demand during the war for platinum for use in the chemical industries and in internal combustion engines much interest was shown in the possibilities of obtaining a greater supply from Canadian sources. The Munition Resources Commission of Canada made investigations of the placers of Tulameen river, B.C., where a small annual production of platinum is made, of other placers in British Columbia and Alberta where the occurrence of platinum had been reported, and of certain sulphide deposits. The results of the investigations, which unfortunately did not lead to the discovery of any important sources of the metal, are set forth in the final report of the Commission, and in the publications of the Canadian Mining Institute.

**Road Materials.**—Investigations have been made by K. A. CLARK, R. H. FICHER, and H. GAUTHIER (2) into the materials suitable for road construction found in the vicinity of some of the main highways of the country. Outcrops of bed rock and deposits of boulders and gravel have been examined and laboratory tests made of samples taken from these deposits. Some of the areas examined are those along the Montreal-Toronto highway, from the Quebec boundary to Prescott and from Napanee to Port Hope; different points in eastern Ontario and southwestern Quebec; between Winnipeg and Brandon; and the Rocky Mountain park. The problem of the utilization of the bituminous sand of Athabaska river in road construction in Alberta is discussed by G. C. PARKER (2).

**Salt.**—The Malagash salt deposit, Nova Scotia, which was discovered a few years ago, is described by A. O. HAYES (1). The salt is pure enough and near enough to the surface to be recovered economically by mining and it is the only deposit in Canada that is worked by this method. The main salt industry of the country is in Ontario where borings are made and the salt brought to the surface in the form of brine.

The discovery of rock salt in a boring made at McMurray, Northern Alberta, is of importance. In a well drilled to a depth of 685 feet a bed of 14 feet of transparent commercial rock salt was penetrated between 648 and 662 feet. In the lower 55 feet of the well there is possibly 25 to 40 feet of comparatively pure rock salt interbedded with anhydrite and shale. The discovery is described by J. A. ALLAN in the Second Annual Report on the Mineral Resources of Alberta.