3.—Quebec.

The geological formation of the province of Quebec indicates great latent wealth in minerals, as 90 p.c. of its immense area of 452,000,000 acres is underlain with rocks of pre-Cambrian age, an insignificant portion of which has as yet been touched by the prospector. The asbestos deposits of the Eastern Townships, which supply most of the world's requirements of this product, are at present the most important of the provinces mineral products. The tonnage has been continually increasing since 1921, but prices have declined.

Lead and zinc concentrates with values of gold and silver are shipped intermittently from Notre-Dame-des-Anges, and copper ores and concentrates have also been exported. Recent discoveries of gold in the northwestern part of the province adjacent to the Kirkland Lake district show that the rich gold deposits of Ontario extend across the interprovincial boundary into Northern Quebec and that the province may yet become an important producer of gold. Substantial quantities of bog iron ore are obtained in the vicinity of St. Maurice and Fermont near Three Rivers for the forges of French Canada, the first of which was established in 1670. Small quantities of titaniferous ore are now obtained from Baie St. Paul. Aluminium is manufactured in electric furnaces at Shawinigan Falls from imported bauxite ores.

The considerable variety of mineral products—many of which are found widely distributed and constitute important mineral reserves—is indicated in Table 7. The Canadian production of chromite in 1923 was restricted to the Black Lake district of Quebec, where about 25,000 tons were mined and treated by the Quebec Chrome Corporation. Shipments during the year comprised 3,558 tons of chrome concentrates (48 p.c., $Cr_2 O_3$) valued at $52,650. The deposits of phlogopite mica in the Lièvre-Gatineau district have been worked for many years. The limestones and igneous rocks of the province supply cement, building and ornamental stone and other materials of construction. Clays are extensively used for the manufacture of brick and sewerpipe.

7.—Mineral Production of Quebec, 1921-1923.[1]

Products.		1921.		1922.		1923.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			$		$		$
Metallic—							
Chromite	ton	2,798	55,696	767	11,503	3,558	52,650
Copper	lb.	352,308	44,045	-	-	-	-
Gold	oz.	635	13,127	-	-	667	13,788
Iron ore, sold for export	ton	-	-	526	1,410	69	186
Lead	lb.	595,881	34,215	-	-	520,041	37,334
Silver	oz.	38,084	23,861	-	-	33,006	21,412
Zinc	lb.	-	-	-	-	366,240	24,197
Non-metallic—							
Asbestos and asbestic	ton	92,761	4,906,230	163,706	5,552,723	231,476	7,519,906
Feldspar	"	9,737	80,180	12,472	127,826	12,026	102,779
Graphite	"	38	2,423	24	1,500	45	2,316
Magnesite	"	2,927	74,109	2,849	76,294	4,801	134,382
Mica	"	484	41,172	1,360	97,748	1,545	216,684
Mineral water	gal.	19,626	7,278	12,161	3,692	5,421	2,408
Iron oxides	ton	8,879	92,765	7,282	110,488	9,911	123,186
Phosphate	"	30	450	131	1,320	30	600
Pyrites	"	1,986	10,463	-	-	-	-
Quartz	"	5,994	29,824	10,994	53,023	13,376	68,936
Talc	"	-	-	150	4,950	590	19,993

[1]There is also in this province an important production of aluminium from imported ores.