

## 7.—ALBERTA.

The coal deposits are of paramount importance among the mineral resources of this province. The coal fields are the most extensive and valuable in Canada. Recent developments include the important increase in the production of bituminous coal. In 1923, the Crowsnest Pass area made a gain of over 500,000 tons over the preceding year, while the Drumheller field showed a decline in the production of lignite. Natural gas is found over wide areas and is being put to extensive industrial use. Petroleum is produced commercially in one locality and showings of oil have been obtained in a number of bore holes in different parts of the province.

## 11.—Mineral Production of Alberta, 1921-1923.

Products.	1921.		1922.		1923.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		\$		\$		\$
<b>METALLIC—</b>						
Gold, alluvial..... oz.	49	1,013	—	—	—	—
<b>NON-METALLIC—</b>						
Coal..... ton	5,909,217	27,246,514	5,990,911	24,351,913	6,854,397	28,018,303
Natural gas..... M cu. ft.	4,945,884	1,374,599	5,867,459	1,622,105	7,191,670	1,692,246
Petroleum..... bbl.	7,203	49,313	5,608	52,128	1,943	8,227
<b>STRUCTURAL MATERIALS AND CLAY PRODUCTS—</b>						
Clay products.....	—	710,477	—	700,063	—	590,565
Lime..... bush.	107,083	48,332	130,627	71,328	87,753	37,999
Stone..... ton	2,962	13,750	554	7,300	—	—
Other products.....	—	1,118,231	—	1,067,299	—	940,196
<b>Total.....</b>	—	<b>30,562,229</b>	—	<b>27,872,136</b>	—	<b>31,287,536</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes cement and sand and gravel.

## 8.—BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The mountain belt in British Columbia is rich in gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc; its streams have yielded much alluvial gold, and on its flanks are enormous beds of coal of excellent quality. Silver-lead and zinc ores have been extensively mined in the east and west Kootenays, while to the south, at Nelson and Rossland, gold and copper are the principal minerals. Further west, in the area known as the Boundary district, low grade copper ores, carrying gold and silver values, have been found in very large deposits. On the coast, copper ores are mined at Britannia bay and at Anyox. Recently, remarkably rich gold and silver ores have been mined near Stewart on the Portland canal in the northwestern coast district. Coal of excellent quality is produced by the mines of Crowsnest pass, East Kootenay and Vancouver island.

Practically the entire mineral production, exclusive of placer gold, is obtained from that portion of the province near its southern boundary or along the coast, mining development outside of the territory served by transportation facilities being comparatively insignificant. An important smelting industry, producing metallic copper, lead and zinc, has been established at Trail in the southern interior, and a large copper-smelting plant is in operation at Anyox.

Since 1907, British Columbia has occupied second place among the provinces in regard to the value of mineral production. Previous to that time the province held first place so far as magnitude of output was concerned. In 1923 the production was valued at \$43,757,000, which was second only to Ontario with a production of \$80,800,000.