

2.—Number of Mines, Capital, Labour, Wages, etc., by Principal Groups.

Annual statistical reports on the mineral production of Canada have been published for many years. first by the Geological Survey, later by the Mines Branch of the Department of Mines, and since 1921, by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Previous to the year in question the annual statistics of mines had been confined chiefly to a presentation of the quantity and value production of each of the minerals. The recent treatment has been extended to include a general review of the principal mineral industries such as the copper-gold, silver-lead-zinc and nickel-copper industries, as well as a section on metallurgical works. The additional data include such features as capital employed, numbers of employees, wages and salaries paid and gross and net production. The aim has been to extend the mining statistics beyond a summary of the production of individual minerals by approaching the subject from the standpoint of industrial organization, definitely illustrating the place which mining holds in the scheme of Canadian productive enterprise.

The Mining Industry in 1922.—The scope of mining operations in 1922 responded somewhat to the moderate recovery in business conditions throughout Canada. The number of active operators in 1922 was 1,944, as compared with 1,741 in the preceding year. The number of operating plants and mines also increased from 6,485 in 1921 to 6,761 in the year under review. The operators were requested to report the capital actually invested in the enterprises, including (1) cost of lands, buildings, plant, machinery and tools, (2) cost of materials on hand, supplies, finished products and ore on dump, and (3) cash, trading and operating accounts and bills receivable. It will be observed that no estimate of undeveloped resources was included. The capital employed in 1922 was \$493,695,000, as compared with \$559,514,000 in the preceding year. The employment situation was not greatly altered, the increase being from 60,804 in 1921 to 62,249 in the following year. The salaries and wages declined from \$79,162,000 in 1921 to \$75,027,000 in 1922. The more favourable conditions obtaining in the industry generally were shown by the decline in the total expenditures from \$140,942,000 in 1921 to \$136,723,000 in 1922, while the value of the products increased from \$170,714,000 to \$182,668,000.

1.—Metallic Mineral Industries.

The metal-mining and milling section included in 1922, 400 active operators working 423 mines, while 8 metallurgical companies operated 13 plants. More than 13,000 employees were engaged in the metallic group, receiving a remuneration of \$18,362,000 in salaries and wages. The capital employed was \$165,975,000, and the net value of bullion, concentrates or residues shipped from the mines and products made by the smelters was valued at \$60,157,000.

Employment and Number of Operators.—The placer-mining operations carried on throughout the various parts of the Yukon camp were satisfactory to the operators, resulting in an output of 67,962 crude ounces of recovered gold. The wage earners numbered 374, receiving \$514,196 in salaries and wages for six to eight months' activity. There were 74 auriferous quartz mines operating, of which 46 produced bullion or shipped ores, while 28 carried on development work only. The provinces in order of importance, with the number of operating mines in each, were Ontario, 41; British Columbia, 18; Nova Scotia, 11; and Manitoba, 4. The employees numbered 5,441, of whom 2,780 were working underground.