

the East Broughton deposits, where the serpentine occurs enclosed in a highly quartzose slate, probably of pre-Cambrian age. In the Danville area, asbestos up to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length occurs abundantly, and the whole of the serpentine is impregnated with fine, short fibre, giving a first-class milling material.

Open-cut methods of mining are adopted almost invariably throughout the Canadian asbestos fields. Nearly all the mining companies have installed machinery for the crushing, fibrizing, screening and grading of the mine product.

34.—Production of Asbestos and Asbestic in Canada, calendar years 1909-1923.

Years.	Asbestos.		Asbestic.		Total.	
	Tons.	\$	Tons.	\$	Tons.	\$
1909.....	63,349	2,284,587	23,951	17,188	87,300	2,301,775
1910.....	77,508	2,555,974	24,707	17,629	102,215	2,573,603
1911.....	101,393	2,922,062	26,021	21,046	127,414	2,943,108
1912.....	111,561	3,117,572	24,740	19,707	136,301	3,137,279
1913.....	136,951	3,830,909	24,135	19,016	161,086	3,849,925
1914.....	96,542	2,892,266	21,031	17,540	117,573	2,909,806
1915.....	111,142	3,553,166	25,700	21,819	136,842	3,574,985
1916.....	133,439	5,199,797	20,710	29,072	154,149	5,228,869
1917.....	135,502	7,183,099	18,279	47,284	153,781	7,230,383
1918.....	141,462	8,936,804	16,797	33,993	158,259	8,970,797
1919.....	136,765	10,909,452	22,471	65,917	159,236	10,975,369
1920.....	167,731	13,677,841	20,956	57,601	188,687	13,735,442
1921.....	92,761	4,906,230	1	1	92,761	4,906,230
1922.....	163,706	5,552,723	1	1	163,706	5,552,723
1923.....	231,482	7,522,506	1	1	231,482	7,522,506

¹ Included with asbestos.

3.—Other Non-Metallic Minerals.

Natural Gas.—The production of natural gas has increased in value from \$1,300,000 in 1910 to \$5,884,618 in 1923. The producing gas wells are situated in the counties of Welland, Haldimand, Norfolk, Kent, Essex and Bruce, in Ontario, at Moncton, New Brunswick, and at Medicine Hat and vicinity, in Alberta. The quantity of gas sold or used in 1923 was over 15,937,000 million feet. Of the total value, Ontario was credited with about 51 p.c.

Petroleum.—The production of crude petroleum comes almost entirely from the province of Ontario. The production of Canada in 1923 was 170,169 barrels, of which 159,400 barrels came from Ontario and 8,826 barrels from New Brunswick. The principal producing oil fields are situated in the peninsula of southwestern Ontario between lake Huron and lake Erie. The oil districts are all situated within an area underlain by Devonian strata, usually in an anticlinal axis, and the petroleum is largely obtained from the horizons in the Onondaga at varying depths in the different localities. The Alberta production in 1923 was 1,943 barrels, a decline of 3,665 barrels from the previous year's total and 9,089 barrels from the 1920 record. Wells near Black Diamond, Turner Valley field, were responsible for the main portion of the production.

Gypsum.—Many large deposits of gypsum occur throughout Canada, but the production is chiefly from Windsor, Nova Scotia, Hillsborough, New Brunswick, Paris, Ontario, and Gypsumville, Manitoba. The Hillsborough deposit of gypsum in New Brunswick is of very high grade. There are also extensive deposits in British Columbia which are being worked by one company only. Nearly 50 p.c. of Canada's production is exported in crude forms. Beds of gypsum are associated with the lower Carboniferous limestones in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The mineral occurs in Ontario in the salt-bearing Salina formation of Upper Silurian age.