

covered with saw timber of commercial size. With regard to quantity of timber, it has also been estimated that the stand of timber of merchantable size in 1924 comprised 482,075,500,000 feet board measure of saw timber and 1,279,705,000 cords of pulpwood, the stands in Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia making up over 40 p.c. of the total. These figures place Canada next to the United States among the countries of the world with respect to forests, and while, during the past, the yearly cuts have generally exceeded new growth and considerable losses have been caused by fire and other destructive agencies, the extent of the uncut forests and the measures taken to preserve them and induce the development of new growth by reforestation assure an adequate supply for many years to come.

The strength and durability of many of the woods of British Columbia, notably the Douglas fir and the cedar, place them among the most valuable in commercial use, while pulpwood and some of the hardwoods from limits in eastern Canada are of equally high grade. Statistics of primary forest production in 1923 place its total value at \$197,459,331, of which \$43,594,592 and \$69,352,821 represent logs sawn and pulpwood used respectively, or its equivalent value in standing timber at 2,671,054,862 cubic feet. The total value of paper production alone in the same year was \$128,089,609; in 1924 it amounted to \$133,395,673.

Fisheries.—The first of Canada's resources to be exploited by Europeans was the fishing banks of the Atlantic coast. It is believed that for many years before the actual discovery and settlement of North America the cod-banks south of Newfoundland and east of Nova Scotia had attracted French fishermen by their abundant catches. These fishing grounds alone extend along a coast line of more than 5,000 miles, comprising an area of not less than 200,000 square miles, and are in the course of the cold Arctic current, a fact which tends greatly to improve the quality of the fish. The more important fishes of the out-shore fisheries are the cod, halibut, haddock, herring and mackerel, while the inshore and inland fisheries number the lobster, oyster, salmon, gaspereau, smelt, trout and maskinonge among their catches. Other fishing grounds include the inshore expanses of the St. Lawrence river, the Great Lakes, where whitefish and herring form perhaps the most valued catches, and innumerable other inland water areas abounding with trout, pike, bass and other game fish, Hudson Bay, with a shore line of 6,000 miles, and the Pacific coast. The fisheries of British Columbia, with its coast line of 7,000 miles, have in recent years shown a rapid development, and the products of the estuarian salmon fisheries of the Fraser, Skeena and other rivers now make up two-fifths of the fish products of the Dominion, while in addition large catches of halibut, herring and whales are made off the western coast. The total value of the fisheries in the calendar year 1924 was \$44,534,235.

Minerals.—The numerous and varied mineral deposits of the Dominion form another of her most important resources. Their value was first appreciated early in the 17th century, when iron was mined in Cape Breton. Following a development which has only become an important one during recent years, when the needs of manufacturing industries and a more settled civilization were to be met, Canada has now become one of the important mining countries of the world. Her coal resources are only now being exploited to any considerable extent, the estimated total reserves available amounting to 1,234,269,310,000 metric tons, approximately one-sixth of the world's reserve; over 85 p.c. of the Canadian reserves are in Alberta. The total estimated reserves constitute almost one quarter of the total amount of coal available in North and South America. Extensive oil fields exist in the western provinces, where they remain practically undeveloped. Some smaller fields in