

9.—YUKON.

The discovery of the Klondike gold fields, situated near Dawson on the Yukon river, first gave the Yukon district prominence as a mining centre. Placer gold is still the principal mineral product, although the output of silver and lead is also of importance. The wide distribution of the ores of gold, copper, silver and lead, characteristic of the Cordilleran region, of which the district forms a part, indicates enormous mining possibilities.

13.—Mineral Production of Yukon, 1922-1924.

| Products. | 1922. | | 1923. | | 1924. | |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|----------------|
| | Quantity. | Value. | Quantity. | Value. | Quantity. | Value. |
| | | \$ | | \$ | | \$ |
| METALLIC— | | | | | | |
| Gold..... fine oz. | 54,456 | 1,125,705 | 60,144 | 1,243,287 | 34,825 | 719,897 |
| Silver..... " | 663,493 | 447,997 | 1,914,438 | 1,241,953 | 226,755 | 151,429 |
| Lead..... lb. | 3,323,508 | 207,221 | 6,771,113 | 486,098 | 903,520 | 73,221 |
| NON-METALLIC— | | | | | | |
| Coal..... tons | 465 | 4,650 | 313 | 1,485 | 1,121 | 8,265 |
| Total..... | - | 1,785,573 | - | 2,972,823 | - | 952,812 |

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 1923.—The scope of mining operations in 1923 responded somewhat to the moderate recovery in business conditions throughout Canada. The number of active operators in 1923 was 2,295, as compared with 1,944 in the preceding year. The number of operating plants and mines also increased from 6,761 in 1922 to 8,150. 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 1923 was \$578,837,012, as compared with \$493,695,000 in 1922. The employment situation was not greatly altered, the increase being from 62,249 in 1922 to 66,952 in the following year. The salaries and wages increased from \$75,027,000 in 1922 to \$91,334,877 in 1923. More favourable conditions obtained in the industry generally, as the value of products increased to \$198,301,049 in 1923, as compared with \$182,668,000 in the preceding year.