traverse the serpentine in all directions, and as a rule the fibre lies at right angles to the walls of the veins. The veins vary in width from ¼ inch to ½ inch, and occasionally fibre has been obtained several inches in length. The fibre is of good quality and well adapted for spinning. Included in the Thetford and Black Lake area are 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 ½ 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.

35.—Production of Asbestos and Asbestic in Canada, calendar years 1909-1924.

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
1924	225,744	6,710,830	[1]	[1]	225,744	6,710,830

[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 $5,708,636 in 1924. 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 1924 was over 14,881,000 M cubic feet. Of the total value, Ontario was credited with about 48 p.c.

Petroleum.—The production of crude petroleum comes almost entirely from the province of Ontario. The production of Canada in 1924 was 160,773 barrels, of which 154,368 barrels came from Ontario and 5,561 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 1924 was 844 barrels, a decline of 1,099 barrels from the previous year's total and 10,188 barrels from the 1920 record. Wells near Black Diamond, Turner Valley field, were responsible for the main portion of the production.