

A concise survey of the resources of the country in abrasive materials, such as grindstones, scythestones, pulpstones, garnet, diatomaceous earth, volcanic ash, pumice and corundum, is made by V. L. Eardley-Wilmot<sup>2</sup>.

Papers were published during the year on natural gas in Canada by R. T. Elworthy<sup>3</sup>, on oil in Alberta by G. S. Hume<sup>4</sup>, on the bituminous sands of Alberta by S. C. Ellis<sup>2</sup>, and on oil and gas horizons of Ontario by W. S. Dyer<sup>4</sup>.

A comprehensive article on the building stones of Canada was written by W. A. Parks<sup>5</sup>; an article by E. S. Moore and Geo. B. Langford<sup>4</sup> gives the results of analyses and tests of Lorrain and Mississagi quartzites north of lake Huron; M. E. Hurst<sup>1</sup> describes the occurrence of scheelite and wolframite in quartz veins near Hazelton; H. V. Ellsworth<sup>4</sup> describes the occurrence in pegmatites in southern Ontario of rare minerals of radium, uranium, columbium and tantalum; and W. Erlenborn describes in the "Report on mining operations in the province of Quebec during the year 1924" the feldspar deposits of Quetachou-Manicouagan bay on the north shore of the St. Lawrence.

#### SOURCES OF REPORTS AND ARTICLES REFERRED TO IN THE TEXT.

<sup>1</sup> Geological Survey, Ottawa; <sup>2</sup> Mines Branch, Department of Mines, Ottawa; <sup>3</sup> Department of Mines, Toronto; <sup>4</sup> Canadian Mining Journal, Gardenvale, Quebec; <sup>5</sup> Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Drummond Building, Montreal; <sup>6</sup> Economic Geology, New Haven, Conn.

### 3.—The Geological Survey of Canada.<sup>1</sup>

The direct aim of the Geological Survey of Canada is to assist in the growth and development of the mineral industry, but in the attainment of this end a great deal of information is acquired that is indirectly of service in other fields of human endeavour. The natural resources upon which a complex system of industries is built lie within or grow from the constituents of the consolidated and unconsolidated mineral and organic substances found at the surface of the earth or lying within a few thousand feet of the surface. An intimate knowledge of the composition and structure of the bedrock, of the unconsolidated material derived from it by decomposition, and of the liquid matter pervading them, is therefore of incalculable value in the opening of new lines of industrial activity and in the extension of those already established.

This idea is so patent that it scarcely needs elaboration. The present is an age of metals. Metals, alloys and minerals enter into the composition of or into the means of manufacture of nearly every article of use—articles of food, of clothing and of housing, as well as articles used as a means of transportation and of entertainment. A knowledge of the rock foundation of the country is requisite in the prosecution of the search for these basic elements of our material civilization. The acquiring of this knowledge has been the work of the Geological Survey. By observations made on rocks exposed at the surface of the earth and at depth in mines and on samples from deep borings, a wealth of information regarding the geological features of the country has been accumulated. This information is made available to the public in the form of maps, reports, memoranda, correspondence and oral statements.

Field work has been carried forward to a sufficient extent to permit of an understanding of the general geological conditions existing throughout the greater part of Canada, and of detailed conditions in a number of particular areas. Our knowledge of the bedrock geology of the country and of the mode of occurrence of economic minerals is sufficient to enable us to delimit certain areas as favourable to the occur-

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