

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 1924 place its total value at \$213,146,710, of which \$83,141,692 and \$44,241,582 represent logs sawn and pulpwood used respectively, or its equivalent in standing timber at 2,808,506,073 cubic feet. The total value of paper production alone in the same year was \$133,395,673; in 1925 it amounted to \$140,680,177.

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 1925 was \$47,926,802.

Minerals.—The numerous and varied mineral deposits of the Dominion form another of her most important resources. Mining is an old industry, coal having been produced in Nova Scotia and iron ore in Quebec early in the eighteenth century. The main development in the industry has taken place, however, in the twentieth century, during which there has been a great increase in the per capita consumption of minerals and mineral products.

There is a great variety of minerals, metallic and non-metallic. The value of the coal raised greatly exceeds that of any other mineral. Coal will continue for an indefinite period to hold a commanding position in the industry, for Canada's reserves of this fuel are known to be very great, sufficient for centuries at the present rate of exploitation. The other leading non-metallic minerals are asbestos, natural gas, gypsum, petroleum and salt. Others that are produced to the annual value of between \$100,000 and \$400,000 each are feldspar, graphite, magnesite, mica, quartz, talc and soapstone. In quantity of asbestos produced Canada takes the lead; the main production is from Quebec. Natural gas is produced in large quantities in Ontario and Alberta and to a less extent in New Brunswick. The decline in the production of petroleum in Ontario has been offset by discoveries in Alberta.

The value of the metallic minerals is much greater than that of the non-metallic minerals. Those amounting to more than \$1,000,000 per annum are:—gold, lead, nickel, copper, silver, zinc, cobalt and platinum. The value of the gold amounted in 1925 to \$35,880,826 and greatly exceeded that of any other metal, Canada having