

5.—MANITOBA.

About three-fifths of the total area of the province is underlain with Precambrian rocks. Copper has been mined in The Pas mineral belt, but low prices and lack of adequate smelting and transportation facilities have militated against operations in the last five years, although sufficient development work has been carried on to prove the existence of large bodies of valuable copper-gold ore. Some gold has also been found in contiguous districts and to the east of lake Winnipeg in the Rice Lake field, which appears to be an extension of the Red Lake area of Ontario.

A large amount of development work both in the gold-mining sections in the northeast of the province and on the copper-zinc deposits in the northwest was carried on during 1927. Towards the close of the year enough experimental work had been done on the refractory copper-zinc ores of the Flin Flon mine, situated on the Manitoba-Saskatchewan boundary, to convince the holders of an option upon it that it could be made to yield a profit and accordingly it changed hands. In order to carry on operations on a larger scale, a railroad will have to be built to the property, a concentrator and smelter erected and a large hydraulic development undertaken. This will open up a section of Manitoba which has been slow to develop because of lack of transportation facilities, and will doubtless lead to the development of new properties.

The south and southwestern sections of the province constitute the main source of the non-metallic mineral production. A mottled limestone of a handsome variety, quarried at Tyndall, is in wide demand as a building stone; gypsum is mined at Gypsumville, and Portland cement is manufactured at Winnipeg and Babcock.

9.—Mineral Production of Manitoba, 1924-1926.

Products.	1924.		1925.		1926.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
METALLIC—		\$		\$		\$
Gold..... fine oz.	1,180	24,393	4,424	91,452	188	3,886
Silver..... "	140	83	477	329	18	11
NON-METALLIC—						
Gypsum..... tons	29,375	348,212	35,088	417,868	35,172	461,461
Natural gas..... M cu. ft	200	60	200	60	200	60
CLAY PRODUCTS AND OTHER STRUCTURAL MATERIALS.						
Cement..... bbl.	286,948	746,750	407,395	1,037,929	612,155	1,572,401
Clay products.....	-	117,450	-	173,794	-	248,497
Lime..... bush.	394,229	121,518	450,315	170,230	685,389	251,269
Sand and gravel..... tons	-	81,897	727,152	196,601	989,581	178,059
Stone..... "	54,065	93,876	52,770	188,496	101,571	357,884
Total	-	1,534,249	-	2,276,259	-	3,675,528

6.—SASKATCHEWAN.

The province of Saskatchewan is mostly agricultural in character, but the conditions in the southern part are favourable to the production of non-metallic minerals in considerable volume. Lignites are mined in the southern part of the province; brick clays are widely utilized, and to the south of Moose Jaw there are extensive beds of refractory clays that are used in the manufacture of fire brick, stoneware, pottery and sewer pipe. Large areas of unprospected territory in the north are underlain by the same Precambrian rocks that have proved mineral-bearing in other parts of Canada. In this territory lode-gold has been reported near Beaver lake, and iron and other metallic minerals near lake Athabaska.