

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. For many years placer gold was the principal mineral, but during the last few years the development of the rich silver-lead ores of the Mayo district has been so successful that the value of the silver and lead production has exceeded the value of the gold. 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, 1924-1926.

Products.	1924.		1925.		1926.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		\$		\$		\$
METALLIC—						
Gold..... fine oz.	34,825	719,897	47,817	988,465	25,601	529,220
Silver..... "	226,755	151,429	904,893	624,964	2,085,027	1,301,159
Lead..... lb.	903,520	73,221	1,875,442	171,040	5,560,373	395,634
NON-METALLIC—						
Coal..... tons	1,121	8,265	730	7,172	316	800
Total	-	\$52,812	-	1,791,641	-	2,226,813

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 that year the annual statistics of mines was 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 1926.—The scale of mining operations in 1926 responded somewhat to the recovery in business conditions throughout Canada. The number of active operators in 1926 was 2,427, as compared with 2,354 in the preceding year. The number of operating plants and mines also increased from 8,553 in 1925 to 9,338. 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 1926 was \$688,750,008, as compared with \$632,075,145 in 1925. Employees increased from 65,090 in 1925 to 77,931 in the following year and salaries and wages from \$85,103,118 in 1925 to \$94,216,813 in 1926. More favourable conditions obtained in the industry generally, as the value of products increased to \$241,138,661 in 1926, as compared with \$215,201,873 in 1925 and \$194,002,488 in 1924.