

mine managers and pit bosses, for the reporting of accidents and generally for the welfare and safety of those employed in the production of minerals. Other than those of the Dominion Government, no taxes or royalties are imposed upon the minerals produced in the province.

**Alberta.**—The natural resources of the province are administered by the Dominion Government and the leasing or disposal of mining lands or mining rights is administered under Dominion laws and regulations.

The Mines Act of the province of Alberta and regulations made thereunder make provision for the safe operation of mines in the province, applying to mines of coal, ironstone, shale, clay and other minerals. Operations must be under the control of officials who hold certificates granted after suitable examination. A staff of inspectors is provided to administer the regulations. Monthly reports of operations must be returned to the Minister.

The Mine Owner's Tax Act provides for the payment of a tax of 2 p.c. of the gross revenue from mining operations. The Mineral Taxation Act levies a tax of 3c. per acre per annum on lands held for the purpose of mineral exploitation. The Coal Sales Act requires that all coal mines shall be registered by name and all coal produced in Alberta sold under the registered name.

**British Columbia.**—The Department of Mines, organized under the provisions of c. 163, R.S.B.C., 1924, and amendments, administers the mineral lands of the province, and has charge of all matters relating to mining, including the Bureau of Mines and all offices established under the Bureau of Mines Act and all Government offices in connection with the mining industry.

The terms of the mining laws are favourable to the prospector, with small fees and rentals. On a lode mine of 51 acres an expenditure of \$500 in work, which may be spread over 5 years, is required to obtain a Crown grant, while surface rights are obtainable at a figure in no case exceeding \$5 per acre. Any person over the age of 18 and any joint stock company can obtain a "free miner's certificate" on payment of a fee, which for the individual is \$5 per annum, while for the joint stock company it is either \$50 or \$100, depending on capitalization. Mineral claims located under the provisions of the Mineral Act must not exceed 1,500 feet square.

## Section 2.—Summary of General Production.

Notwithstanding the rapid development of mineral production in Canada during recent years—the value of the annual output increased from \$10,221,000 in 1886 to \$145,635,000 in 1913 and \$273,446,000 in 1928—the possibilities in the future are of even greater interest. For many years the natural difficulties of travel in the northland hindered the progress even of reconnaissance work, and a large part of Canada remained but very little explored. Nevertheless, sufficient was done to make known the main geological features, to indicate roughly the territories that would be found to be mineral-bearing, and to predict the character of the mineral resources in the different geological provinces. The development of the aeroplane during and since the war has provided an agent of improved and rapid transportation in regions where the canoe and dog team were the only other means available, while exploration and photography from the air are providing accurate knowledge and reliable maps of large regions formerly almost entirely unexplored. This applies particularly to the Canadian Shield, that large northern area where are exposed rocks of Precambrian age which have already proved immensely rich in mineral resources. In spite of the manner in which the search for minerals in this area has