

eries of the Fraser, Skeena and other rivers now make up two-fifths of the value of 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 1929 was \$53,518,521.

The above statistics give a general survey of the commercial aspects of the fisheries but do not indicate the advantages which Canada has to offer to those who fish for sport. This too has its economic features in a country of such famous game fish as the salmon of the Restigouche, the black bass of the Quebec and Ontario highlands and the trout of the Nipigon. A considerable public revenue is derived from the leasing of waters in sparsely settled districts to clubs and individuals for sporting purposes.

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 production 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, reaching \$63,065,170 in 1929. 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. The other leading non-metallic minerals are asbestos, natural gas, gypsum, petroleum and salt. Others that are produced to the annual value of between \$200,000 and \$500,000 each are quartz, magnesite, sulphur, feldspar and fluor spar. In quantity of asbestos produced Canada leads the world, all of the production being from Quebec. Natural gas is produced in Alberta and Ontario and to a less extent in New Brunswick. The decline in the production of petroleum in Ontario has been offset by increased output 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: copper, gold, nickel, lead, silver, zinc, cobalt and the platinum group of metals. The value of the gold amounted in 1929 to \$39,861,663 and was only exceeded by that of copper, the value of which was \$43,415,251, Canada having risen since the development of the Porcupine and Kirkland Lake mines to third place among gold-producing countries.¹ Lead and zinc mining has made a rapid growth in recent years. Ontario meets about 90 p.c. of the world's requirements in nickel, and has reserves to last for centuries. Platinum and palladium are recovered in the process of refining the copper-nickel ores. British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec are the main copper-producing provinces; in Manitoba large bodies of copper-zinc sulphides are being developed. The total mineral production for 1929 amounted to \$310,850,246, while the 1930 production is provisionally estimated at \$276,865,000, the decline being due to lower values rather than to reduced quantities.

Water Powers.—Canada's water area of 180,035 square miles, distributed as it is throughout all parts of the country, provides a large amount of potential electric energy. It is estimated that 20,347,400 h.p. are available at a minimum

¹ In 1930, according to preliminary figures, Canadian gold production exceeded that of the United States. If final figures support the preliminary estimate, Canada has now assumed second place in the world as regards gold production.