

in crude forms from the Nova Scotia deposits, which are conveniently situated for ocean shipping and account for about 75 p.c. of the total Canadian production. Beds of gypsum are associated with the lower Carboniferous limestones in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The mineral occurs in Ontario in the salt-bearing Salina formation of Upper Silurian age. Production during 1930 was 1,070,968 tons valued at \$2,818,788 and preliminary figures for 1931 are 854,329 tons valued at \$2,099,381. The production by provinces during 1930 is shown in Table 5, p. 254.

Salt.—Practically the whole of the production comes from wells located in southwestern Ontario, but the Malagash deposits in Nova Scotia show an increasing production in recent years and some shipments have been made from deposits near McMurray in Alberta. The deposits of Ontario occur in the Salina formation of Upper Silurian age, in which the beds of the mineral sometimes reach a thickness of 250 feet. The Canadian production during the present century has shown fairly steady growth from 59,428 tons in 1901 to 91,582 in 1911, 164,658 in 1921, 262,547 in 1926 and a high record of 330,264 tons in 1929. Since then production has declined to 271,695 tons valued at \$1,694,631 in 1930 (see Tables 2 and 5 of this chapter) and 259,047 tons according to the preliminary figures for 1931.

Section 6.—Production of Clay Products and Other Structural Materials.

Brick and Tile.—Although the brick and tile industry is established in every province of the Dominion production is naturally greatest near the chief centres of population, that is, in Ontario and Quebec. Here the widespread clays of glacial and post-glacial age that occur over considerable areas of the St. Lawrence Lowlands have furnished the materials for numerous brick and tile industries. Production in these industries fluctuates with building activity and reached its highest point in the year 1912. Since that time the gradual substitution of steel and reinforced concrete for brick construction has reduced the production of brick so that, while the value of construction undertaken in both 1928 and 1929 is estimated to have exceeded that of 1912, the quantity of brick produced in each of the later years was only about half that of 1912. On the other hand, as will be seen from Table 28 below, the production and consumption of cement in 1929 greatly exceeded that of 1912 or 1913. The production of building brick of various types in 1929 and 1930 is shown in Table 2, while the production by provinces in 1930 is given in Table 5.

Cement.—The cement industry in Canada began with the manufacture of hydraulic or natural rock cement. The first production was probably at Hull, Quebec, between 1830 and 1840. The manufacture of Portland cement began about 1889. Owing to its superior qualities of uniformity and strength, it soon superseded the older product. Portland cement consists of an accurately proportioned mixture of lime, silica and alumina. The lime is usually furnished by limestone or marl, and the silica and alumina by clay or shale. The cement industry has naturally become established where these materials are situated with good facilities for a supply of fuel and for shipment of the product to the markets. The largest production is in Quebec and Ontario, although there are also active plants in Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia. As may be seen from Table 28, while production was reduced in 1930, it still exceeded that of 1928. The industry thus shows a healthy recovery from the unfavourable conditions from which it suffered during the war and post-war periods. Whereas in pre-war years Canada was an importer of Portland cement she is now an exporter of this commodity.