

Fisheries.—The first of Canada's resources to be exploited by Europeans was the fishing banks of the Atlantic coast. It is believed that, for many years before the actual discovery and settlement of North America, the cod banks south of Newfoundland and east of Nova Scotia had attracted French fishermen by their abundance of fish. These fishing grounds alone extend along a coast line of more than 5,000 miles, comprising an area of not less than 200,000 square miles, and are in the course of the cold Arctic current, a fact which tends greatly to improve the quality of the fish. The most important fishes of the off-shore fisheries are the cod, halibut, haddock, herring and mackerel, while the inshore and inland fisheries number the lobster, oyster, salmon, gaspereau, smelt, trout and maskinonge among their catches. Other fishing grounds include the inshore expanses of the St. Lawrence river; the Great Lakes, where whitefish and herring form perhaps the most valued catches, and innumerable other inland water areas abounding with trout, pike, bass and other game fish; and the Pacific coast. The fisheries of British Columbia, with its coast line of 7,000 miles, have in recent years shown a rapid development, and the products of the estuarian salmon fisheries 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 1931 was \$30,517,306.

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 total and per capita production of minerals and mineral products.

There is a great variety of mineral products, metallic and non-metallic. Coal was for long the leading mineral, but in 1931 coal was exceeded in value by gold and in 1932 the preliminary figures for gold (\$63,061,103) again exceeded those of coal (\$37,045,272). Coal will probably remain in second place for some time although Canada's reserves of this fuel are known to be very great. The other leading non-metallic minerals were natural gas, asbestos, petroleum, salt and gypsum. Others that were produced to the annual value of over \$100,000 each in 1932 were quartz, magnesite, sulphur, sodium sulphate, and talc and soapstone. 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 production of petroleum comes principally from Alberta, although there is also a small output in Ontario and New Brunswick.

The value of the metallic minerals was in 1932 nearly double that of the non-metallic minerals. Those amounting to more than \$1,000,000 in the year were: gold, copper, nickel, silver, lead, zinc, and platinum and similar precious metals. Canada has now definitely taken second place among gold-producing countries.