

Natural Gas and Petroleum.

Natural Gas.—The production of natural gas increased in value from \$1,346,471 in 1910 to \$10,289,985 in 1930 but declined to \$9,026,754 in 1931. The producing wells in the east are in southwestern Ontario, and near Moncton, N.B. The principal producing fields in Alberta are the Turner Valley (about 35 miles southwest of Calgary), Medicine Hat, Viking (about 80 miles southeast of Edmonton), Redcliff, Foremost (about 6 miles south and east of the town of Foremost), Bow Island and Wetaskiwin. Wainwright is supplied with gas from the Maple Leaf well in the Fabyan field. The quantity of gas sold or used in 1931 was 25,874,723 M cubic feet. Ontario was credited with about 51 p.c. of the total value but only 29 p.c. of the total quantity, while Alberta produced 45 p.c. by value and 69 p.c. of the total quantity. The production by provinces since 1920 is given in Table 28.

28.—Quantity and Value of Natural Gas Produced in Canada, by Provinces, calendar years 1920-32.

(For the years 1892 to 1919 see Mineral Production of Canada, 1923, p. 188.)

| Year. | New Brunswick. | | Ontario. | | Alberta. | | Canada. ¹ | |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|
| | Quantity. | Value. | Quantity. | Value. | Quantity. | Value. | Quantity. | Value. |
| | M cu. ft. | \$ | M cu. ft. | \$ | M cu. ft. | \$ | M cu. ft. | \$ |
| 1920..... | 682,502 | 130,506 | 10,529,374 | 2,920,731 | 5,633,442 | 1,181,345 | 16,845,518 | 4,232,642 |
| 1921..... | 708,743 | 139,375 | 8,422,774 | 3,080,130 | 4,945,884 | 1,374,599 | 14,077,601 | 4,594,164 |
| 1922..... | 753,898 | 148,040 | 8,060,114 | 4,076,296 | 5,868,439 | 1,622,105 | 14,682,551 | 5,846,501 |
| 1923..... | 640,300 | 126,068 | 8,128,413 | 4,066,244 | 7,191,670 | 1,692,246 | 15,960,583 | 5,884,618 |
| 1924..... | 599,972 | 113,577 | 7,150,073 | 3,798,381 | 7,131,080 | 1,796,618 | 14,881,336 | 5,708,636 |
| 1925..... | 639,235 | 122,394 | 7,143,962 | 3,958,006 | 9,119,500 | 2,752,545 | 16,902,897 | 6,833,005 |
| 1926..... | 648,316 | 128,300 | 7,764,996 | 4,409,593 | 10,794,697 | 3,019,321 | 19,208,209 | 7,557,174 |
| 1927..... | 630,755 | 124,637 | 7,311,215 | 4,331,780 | 13,434,621 | 3,586,533 | 21,376,791 | 8,043,010 |
| 1928..... | 660,981 | 324,344 | 7,632,800 | 4,535,312 | 14,288,605 | 3,754,466 | 22,582,586 | 8,614,182 |
| 1929..... | 678,456 | 333,002 | 8,586,475 | 4,959,695 | 19,112,931 | 4,684,247 | 23,378,462 | 9,977,124 |
| 1930..... | 661,973 | 325,751 | 7,965,761 | 5,034,828 | 20,748,583 | 4,929,226 | 29,376,919 | 10,289,985 |
| 1931..... | 655,891 | 323,184 | 7,419,534 | 4,635,497 | 17,798,698 | 4,067,893 | 25,874,723 | 9,026,754 |
| 1932 ² | 645,010 | 317,803 | 7,244,624 | 4,544,000 | 15,985,744 | 3,820,722 | 23,875,978 | 8,682,505 |

¹ Totals for Canada include a small production in Manitoba.

² Figures for 1932 are subject to revision.

Petroleum.—The production of crude petroleum in Canada during 1931 was the greatest on record and amounted to 1,542,573 barrels, as compared with 1,522,220 barrels produced in 1930. Of this production 6,577 barrels came from New Brunswick, 122,365 from Ontario and 1,413,631 from Alberta. Alberta thus produced 92 p.c. of the total for Canada. The Turner Valley field is the principal source of production in Alberta and embraces territory in which a number of productive wells have recently been brought in, beginning with the famous Royalite No. 4 well. The wells in this field give a wet gas from which a very high grade of crude naphtha is separated. The Red Coulee field in southern Alberta near the International Boundary began producing some petroleum in 1929, while a small production has been obtained for a number of years in the Wainwright field, about 120 miles east of Edmonton, where the oil is heavy and of a lower grade. Altogether 109 oil wells were in operation in Alberta at the close of the year 1931, while drilling was in progress on 14 other wells. These drilling operations were distributed over the Turner Valley, Wainwright, Ribstone, Red Coulee and other fields. There was 80,225 feet of well-drilling in addition to some structure test drilling done in Alberta during 1931.