

\$611,763 paid on copper bars and rods and the \$26,847 for hemp and the \$404,078 for coal, make a total of \$24,050,389. The Year Book of 1915, pp. 459-461, gave a description of the bounties that had been payable since 1883, as well as tables showing, for each commodity, the quantities on which bounties were annually paid and the amounts of such bounties for the years 1896 to 1915 inclusive. For details of the bounties on zinc, see p. 635 of the 1927-28 Year Book.

### Section 6.—Patents, Copyrights, and Trade Marks.\*

**Patents.**—Letters patent, which in England have been in the gift of the Crown from the time of the Statute of Monopolies and earlier, are a purely statutory grant in Canada and have always been so. The earliest Act was one of Lower Canada, passed in 1824, wherein provision was made for the granting of patent rights to inventors who were British subjects and inhabitants of the province. Upper Canada passed its Act in 1826, and Nova Scotia and New Brunswick passed theirs at later dates. In 1849, after the Union, a consolidating Act was passed applying to both Upper and Lower Canada, and the B.N.A. Act assigned the granting of patents exclusively to the Parliament of Canada. The Dominion Patent Act of 1869 repealed the provincial Acts and has formed the basis of all succeeding Acts.

The first Canadian patent was issued under the Lower Canada Act of 1824 to Noah Cushing of Quebec; 165 patents were granted under the Acts of Upper and Lower Canada, and, under the consolidating and later Acts of the provinces 3,160 patents were granted.

Letters patent are now issued subject to the provisions of Chapter 150, R.S.C., 1927 (as amended by c. 4, 1928, c. 34, 1930, and c. 21, 1932), and application for protection relating to the same should be addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Ottawa, Canada.

Invention means any new and useful art, process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter or any new and useful improvement in any art, process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter.

The growth of Canadian inventions is shown by the fact that an average of 1,422 patents was issued annually to Canadians during the decade 1920-29. The business of the Office has continued to expand gradually. The number of applications and total fees increased each year without a break from the beginning of the present century until the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1913, when 8,681 applications were received and the total fees amounted to \$218,125. In the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1934, there were 9,267 applications, with fees amounting to \$362,146, as compared with 10,145 and \$393,067, respectively, in 1933. For the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1934, the number of patents granted was 9,124 as compared with 10,241 in 1933, a decrease of 1,119. Of the patents of 1934, 5,998 or 66 p.c. were issued to United States' inventors, 982 to Canadians and 804 to residents of Great Britain and Ireland, while Germany with 566, France with 175, Holland with 97 and Sweden with 91 came next in the number of inventors to whom patents were issued.

\*Revised by J. T. Mitchell, Acting Commissioner of Patents, Ottawa.