

Petroleum.—The production of crude petroleum in Canada during 1931 was the greatest on record and amounted to 1,542,573 barrels. Output, however, declined to 1,044,412 barrels in 1932, rising again to 1,410,895 barrels in 1934. Production during 1935 was estimated as 1,429,386 barrels. The Turner Valley field in Alberta is the principal source of production in Canada. 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 to yield 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. Production from wells near Fort Norman on the lower Mackenzie river increased from 910 barrels in 1932 to 4,438 barrels in 1934. This oil is treated locally in a small refining plant and is used to a large extent in connection with mining operations in the Great Bear Lake area.

The principal Ontario oil fields are situated in the southwestern peninsula between lake Huron and lake Erie. The maximum production of these fields was reached in the '90's and has since declined. New Brunswick's small production comes from the Stony Creek field, near Moncton. For the production by provinces in 1934, see Table 5 of this chapter.

28.—Quantities and Values of Crude Petroleum Produced in Canada, calendar years 1911-35.

NOTE.—For figures for the years 1886-1910, inclusive, see p. 377 of the 1933 Year Book.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.	Year.	Quantity.	Value.	Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	brl. ¹	\$		brl. ¹	\$		brl. ¹	\$
1911.....	291,092	357,073	1919....	240,466	736,324	1927....	476,591	1,516,043
1912.....	243,336	345,050	1920....	196,251	822,235	1928....	624,184	2,035,300
1913.....	228,080	406,439	1921....	187,541	641,533	1929....	1,117,368	3,731,764
1914.....	214,805	343,124	1922....	179,068	611,176	1930....	1,522,220	5,033,820
1915.....	215,464	300,572	1923....	170,169	522,018	1931....	1,542,573	4,211,674
1916.....	198,123	392,284	1924....	160,773	467,400	1932....	1,044,412	3,022,592
1917.....	213,832	542,239	1925....	332,001	1,250,705	1933....	1,145,333	3,138,791
1918.....	304,741	885,143	1926....	364,444	1,311,665	1934....	1,410,895	3,449,162
						1935 ² ..	1,429,386	3,476,730

¹The barrel=35 Imp. gal. ²Preliminary figures.

Subsection 2.—Other Non-Metallic Minerals.

Asbestos.—Canada produces more asbestos than any other country. The value of the annual output of asbestos increased from less than \$25,000 in 1880 to \$14,792,201 in 1920 and \$13,172,581 in 1929. Owing to trade depression, production was much curtailed from 1929 to 1932, as will be seen in Table 29. However, since 1932 production has shown a distinct improvement. The Imperial Institute has not given an estimate for the world total of asbestos production since 1931 owing to the lack of statistics for Russia, the world's second largest producer. In 1931 Russian production was estimated at 63,653 long tons and it has probably increased slightly since then. In 1934 Canada produced about 139,200 long tons, or more than half the world total, while other leading countries with their production in long tons were: Southern Rhodesia, 28,762; Union of South Africa, 15,709; Cyprus, 7,081; and United States, 4,542.