

Petroleum and Natural Gas.—Locations may be applied for by mail or in person. The area of a location may be from 40 acres to 19,200 acres, and one person may apply for three locations, but not over 19,200 acres in all, except in unsurveyed lands, in which the limit is 1,920 acres. An operator must obtain a permit and furnish a substantial bond. All drillers must secure licences of competency. The record of a driller may be obtained by payment of a fee.

Alberta.—*Administration.*—Department of Lands and Mines, Edmonton. There is a staff of inspectors of mines. *Legislation.*—The Coal Mines Regulation Act and regulations thereunder make provision for the safe operation of mines of coal, ironstone, shale, clay, and other minerals. Operating officials must hold certificates of competency. Monthly reports of operations must be returned to the Minister. The Coal Sales Act requires all coal mines to be registered by name and all coal produced to be sold under the registered name. The Coal Miners' Wages Security Act requires all coal operators to provide bond to insure the payment of wages, unless exemption is obtained through the Board of Public Utility Commissioners.

The general laws and regulations pertaining to mining and minerals are similar to those in force under the Dominion Government before the Provincial Government took over the natural resources in 1930. They follow closely those summarized in Subsection 1 of this chapter.

British Columbia.—*Administration.*—Department of Mines, Victoria. The Department includes all Government offices in connection with the mining industry. *Legislation.*—The Department of Mines Act (c. 42, 1934) and other Acts respecting mining and minerals, notably: The Coal and Petroleum Act (c. 162, R.S.B.C. 1924); The Mineral Act (c. 167, R.S.B.C. 1924); The Placer-Mining Act (c. 169, R.S.B.C. 1924); Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act (c. 46, 1935); The Coal-Mines Regulation Act (c. 171, R.S.B.C. 1924); and amendments to the above Acts.

Placer.—Claims are of three classes: (1) creek diggings—250 feet long and 1,000 feet wide, 500 feet on each side of the stream; (2) bar diggings—250 feet square on a bar covered at high water, or a strip 250 feet long at high water, extending between high-water mark and extreme low-water mark; (3) dry diggings over which water never extends—250 feet square. A placer claim must be worked by the owner, or someone on his behalf continuously during working hours. Discontinuance for 72 hours, except in closed season, lay-over, leave of absence, sickness or other reason satisfactory to the Gold Commissioner is deemed abandonment. To hold a placer claim more than one year, it must be again recorded before the expiration of the year.

Placer leases of unoccupied Crown lands, approximately 80 acres in extent, may be granted by the Gold Commissioner of the district, the annual rental for same being \$30 and the annual expenditure required in development work \$250. Dredging leases on rivers below low-water mark also are granted for 5 miles; the annual rental for same is \$25 per mile and the annual expenditure required in development is \$1,000 per mile, the value of any new plant or machinery employed