

to count as development. Provision is also made for the granting of leases of areas in excess of those referred to above. Leases of precious stone diggings, 10 acres in extent, may also be obtained.

*General Minerals.*—The terms of the mining laws are favourable to the prospector and operator, fees and rentals being small. Prospector's licence or "free miners' certificate"—applicant must be over the age of 18; fee for individual \$5 per annum; for a joint-stock company \$50 or \$100 per annum depending on capitalization. Mineral claims must not exceed 1,500 feet square (51·65 acres); work, amounting to \$500 which may be spread over five years, required to obtain a Crown grant, while surface rights are obtainable at a figure in no case exceeding \$5 per acre.

## Section 2.—Summary of General Production.

Since 1886, the first year that the Geological Survey issued complete returns of mineral production, Canada has shown a fairly steady growth in mineral output. In that year the per capita production was only \$2·23; in 1901, five years after the Yukon discoveries, production totalled \$12·25 per capita, but there was a falling-off from 1902 to 1904. Thereafter, owing to the discovery of silver in the Cobalt area, the development of the copper-nickel ores of the Sudbury district, the opening up of the gold mines of Porcupine and Kirkland Lake in Ontario, the improvements in metallurgical practice which led to the recoveries of large quantities of lead and zinc from British Columbian ores, and the discoveries and developments in Quebec and Manitoba, the per capita production rose to \$31 in 1929. Although owing to world-wide economic depression it dropped to \$18·20 in 1932, it rose again to \$28·56 in 1935 and about \$32·70 in 1936, with the mineral industry leading in the general improvement in economic conditions.

In 1935, the latest year for which comprehensive world figures of the Imperial Institute are available, Canada stood first in the production of asbestos, nickel, and the platinum metals, second in radium, third in copper, gold, silver, and zinc, fourth in lead and cobalt. During that year, Canada produced approximately 84 p.c. of the world production of nickel, 51 p.c. of the asbestos, 13 p.c. of the copper, 12 p.c. of the gold, 11 p.c. of the lead, 10 p.c. of the zinc, and 7·5 p.c. of the silver.

The Preliminary Report on the Mineral Production of Canada, released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in March, 1937, shows a total valuation of \$361,394,062 for the mineral output of the Dominion in 1936 compared with \$312,344,457 in 1935. This represents an increase of 15·7 p.c. and reflects the continuation of the improved conditions commencing in 1933.

Prospecting for gold ores and the exploration and development of known auriferous deposits were more extensively carried on throughout Canada during the recent period 1932-36 than ever before. These activities were common to both the older producing camps and new areas. The higher price for gold stimulated the study and examination of new deposits or ore zones heretofore considered of doubtful economic importance. In certain of the older camps properties closed prior to the revaluation of gold were re-opened and placed in production or further explored as to their possibilities. In some of the producing mines the higher price for the