

activities. Similarly, the demand for asbestos and gypsum was affected by the lower level of industrial and construction operations. Salt was an exception to the general rule, as its production was well maintained throughout, partly owing to its increased consumption in certain chemical industries. Indeed, the net sales of the salt-producing industry increased each year from 1929 to 1932 to a level about 23 p.c. above that of 1929. A large measure of recovery has taken place in this group of industries, especially in the production of non-metallic minerals other than fuels.

The production of clay products and other structural materials is directly dependent upon construction activities within Canada. During the early years of the depression, these activities were partly maintained by governmental relief projects and by the carrying to completion of some large operations which had commenced before 1930. As a result, construction reached its lowest level in Canada during 1933, and the group of industries producing clay products and other structural materials was at a lower level of operation in that year than in any other year recorded since 1921. From 1929 to 1933 there was a decline of 71 p.c. in net sales, 69 p.c. in employees, 74 p.c. in salaries and wages and 76 p.c. in expenditures for fuel and electricity, a large item in the cost of production in these industries. However, construction has been more active in Canada since 1933 (see Chapter XV) and this increased activity has been accompanied by a welcome change to a rising trend in the production of clay products and other structural materials, although these industries are still at a low level compared with their activity prior to 1929.

6.—Summary of the Principal Statistics of the Mineral Industries in Canada, by Groups, 1929-36, and by Provinces, 1936.

NOTE.—For the years 1921-28, see the 1936 Year Book, pp. 355-356. In the past, the net value of production, called "net sales", in these industries has been gross sales less freight and treatment charges in the case of mines, and less the value of ores charged in the case of smelters. According to a recommendation adopted by the Conference of Commonwealth Statisticians in Ottawa, 1935, the net figure, called the "net income from sales", is now obtained from net sales as defined above by a further deduction of the costs of fuel, electricity, and consumable supplies used in the production process. In the table below, however, to facilitate comparison with previous years, figures for 1935 are given to show deductions and resultant net by both methods, and figures for 1936 on the new basis only.

Group and Year.	Plants or Mines.	Capital Employed.	Employees.	Salaries and Wages.	Fuel and Electricity for Heat and Power. ¹	Net Sales. ²
	No.	\$	No.	\$	\$	\$
METALLIC MINERALS.						
1929.....	528	427,498,173	31,125	50,279,511	11,221,987	163,050,366
1930.....	352	427,439,265	30,623	48,851,303	11,323,313	137,015,892
1931.....	327	390,908,034	25,434	41,829,288	10,340,523	132,382,514
1932.....	330	269,180,464	21,931	34,983,704	8,551,463	119,790,072
1933.....	402	406,998,952	25,443	37,937,871	7,084,253	150,145,926
1934.....	636	465,583,818	34,143	50,818,448	9,144,600	186,785,532
1935.....	619	437,471,769	38,603	59,528,350	10,199,214	217,353,515
1936.....	867	507,796,987	46,455	72,016,670	151,846,099 ¹ 188,372,443 ¹	173,588,815 ² 211,444,303 ²
NON-METALLIC MINERALS.						
1929.....	5,494	317,302,496	40,080	55,602,313	6,033,773	93,596,188
1930.....	5,191	328,776,596	38,355	47,852,675	5,785,483	80,063,355
1931.....	5,374	325,168,359	34,075	36,031,233	4,870,674	61,629,210
1932.....	5,246	302,294,837	31,654	29,918,319	4,497,602	54,389,856
1933.....	5,327	283,796,783	30,532	27,309,607	4,695,254	54,912,205
1934.....	5,605	263,120,280	32,195	31,763,492	5,219,565	60,580,554
1935.....	6,181	244,237,709	32,755	33,150,704	5,152,971	62,407,314
1936.....	6,224	257,057,806	34,768	37,280,814	16,705,125 ¹ 12,270,765 ¹	45,739,144 ² 59,475,472 ²

For footnotes, see end of Table, p. 356.