

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 33. However, since 1932, production has shown a distinct improvement. In 1938 Canada produced 258,700 long tons, while other leading countries with their production in long tons were: Southern Rhodesia, 52,509; Union of South Africa, 20,668; United States, 11,519; and Cyprus, 9,032. Russian production in 1937 and 1938, as well as the production of several other countries, is not available.

The Eastern Townships of Quebec have for many years been the most productive asbestos-mining area in the world. The most important deposits are: at Black Lake, in Coleraine Township; at Thetford and Robertsonville, in Thetford Township; at East Broughton, in Broughton, Township; and at Danville, in Shipton Township. The veins of chrysotile asbestos vary in width from $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and occasionally fibre has been obtained several inches in length. The fibre is of good quality and well adapted for spinning. Both open-cut and underground methods of mining are employed throughout the Canadian asbestos fields. Nearly all the mining companies have installed machinery for the crushing, fibrizing, screening, and grading of the mine product. Some development work has been conducted on an asbestos property at Rahn Lake, Bannockburn Township, Ontario; the fibre in this deposit is reported as being of high quality.

There are 13 plants in Canada that manufacture asbestos products, including the following commodities: asbestos paper and mill board; asbestos roofing of all kinds; asbestos rigid shingles; asbestos building materials; asbestos cellular and sponge-felted pipe insulation; insulating sheets and blocks; asbestos yarn; asbestos dryer felts; asbestos brake linings and clutch facings (woven on special looms); and asbestos packings for steam, oil, and hydraulic operation.

33.—Quantities and Values of Asbestos Produced in Canada, 1920-39.

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1896 to 1910, inclusive, will be found at p. 424 of the 1911 Year Book, and for the years 1911 to 1919 at p. 354 of the 1939¹ edition.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.	Year.	Quantity.	Value.	Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	short tons.	\$		short tons.	\$		short tons.	\$
1920....	199,573	14,792,201	1926....	279,403	10,099,423	1933....	158,367	5,211,177
1921....	92,761	4,906,230	1927....	274,778	10,621,013	1934....	155,980	4,936,326
1922....	163,706	5,552,723	1928....	273,033	11,238,360	1935....	210,467	7,054,614
1923....	231,482	7,522,506	1929....	306,055	13,172,581	1936....	301,287	9,958,183
1924 ¹	225,744	6,710,830	1930....	242,114	8,390,163	1937....	410,026	14,505,791
			1931....	164,296	4,812,886	1938....	289,793	12,890,195
1925....	273,524	8,977,546	1932....	122,977	3,039,721	1939 ²	364,472	15,859,212

¹ The quantities and values of sand, gravel, and rock separated as a by-product in milling asbestos are included in the totals for 1924 and previous years, but are excluded in later years.

² Preliminary figures.

Gypsum.—Many large deposits of gypsum occur throughout Canada, but the production is chiefly from Hants, Inverness, and Victoria Counties, Nova Scotia; Hillsborough, New Brunswick; Hagersville and Caledonia, Ontario; Gypsumville and Amaranth, Manitoba; and Falkland, British Columbia. The Hillsborough