

Lands Act (c. 48, R.S.M. 1940); the Manitoba Natural Resources Act (c. 148 R.S.M. 1940); and the Surveys Act (c. 205, R.S.M. 1940) and regulations thereunder.

Saskatchewan.—*Administration.*—Department of Natural Resources, Regina. *Legislation.*—Mineral Resources Act of 1931 and regulations thereunder; the Coal Mines Safety and Welfare Act, 1932, providing for the competency of mine managers and pit bosses, for the reporting of accidents, and the welfare and safety of those employed in the production of minerals; Coal Mining Industry Act, 1935, providing for a Coal Administrator to administer all legislation pertaining to the coal industry.

Alberta.—*Administration.*—Department of Lands and Mines, Edmonton. There is a staff of inspectors of mines. *Legislation.*—The Provincial Lands Act, 1939; the Oil and Gas Wells Act, 1931; the Oil and Gas Resources Conservation Act; the Mines Act; the Coal Sales Act; and the Coal Miners Wage Security Act.

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 and other Acts respecting mining and minerals, notably: the Mineral Act (c. 181, R.S.B.C. 1936); the Placer-Mining Act (c. 184, R.S.B.C. 1936); Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act (c. 189, R.S.B.C. 1936); the Coal-Mines Regulation Act (c. 188, R.S.B.C. 1936); and amendments to the above Acts.

Section 2.—Summary of General Production

A special article on the Development of Canada's Mineral Resources in Relation to the Present War Effort, so far as this development had taken place at the middle of 1940, appears at pp. 298-309 of the 1940 Year Book.

The importance of mineral production as compared with other primary industries in Canada is indicated in Chapter VII while its part in the external trade of Canada is dealt with in Chapter XVI, Part II, especially Section 2, Subsection 1, and Section 3, Subsections 2 and 5.

Subsection 1.—General Statistics of Mineral Production

Historical Statistics.—Definite records of the annual value of mineral production go back only to 1886, as given in Table 1, although actual production began with the earliest settlements. The figures given are not strictly comparable throughout the whole period, minor changes having been adopted in methods of computing both the metallic content of ores sold and the valuations of the products. Earlier methods resulted in a somewhat higher value than those now in use would have shown. However, the changes do not interfere with the general usefulness of the figures in showing the broad trends in the mineral industry.

Current Production.—During the period of the War of 1914-18, owing to limited supplies, prices of war metals such as copper, lead and zinc rose to very high levels. Not only were such metals produced in Canada in comparatively small volume even under the stimulus of high prices but the refining of this limited production was largely done outside of Canada. Gold production was also on a relatively small scale, being quite restricted toward the end of the 1914-18 period by abnormally high costs resulting from inflated commodity price-levels.