

chapter where, in the cases of copper, lead, zinc and silver, the values are computed by applying the average prices for the year in the principal metal markets to the total production from mines and smelters with no reduction for fuel, electricity and other supplies consumed in the production process. Some imported ores and concentrates are treated in Canadian non-ferrous smelting and refining works, especially in the production of aluminium where imported ore only is used. The net sales of these plants include, therefore, the net value of the metals recovered from these imported ores and to this extent the net sales shown in Tables 7 and 8 include products not of Canadian origin.

Subsection 1.—Principal Factors in the Mineral Industries

An explanation of what is included in the figures under the headings "Capital Employed", "Employees", and "Fuel and Electricity for Heat and Power" in Tables 7 and 8 is given at p. 244 of the 1941 Year Book.

Subsection 2.—Growth of the Mining Industry in Recent Years

Canada's mining industry is playing an increasingly important part in the economic life of the nation. The rise in the price of gold since 1933 (\$20·67 per fine ounce in 1933 to \$38·50 in 1942) has resulted in the mines being able to produce from ore that was hitherto unprofitable, and has stimulated prospecting to such a degree that many new mines have been discovered. As a result, the value of production has increased from \$84,000,000 in 1933 to \$206,000,000 in 1941. This has been of tremendous assistance in providing foreign exchange. In addition, parts of Canada not hitherto of commercial importance have been opened up, new communities have been established with their resultant markets for consumer goods and mine supplies.

During the present war, Canadian base-metal mines are being operated to capacity and additions to plant are being made wherever practicable to supply the Allies with nickel, copper, lead, zinc and other metals of strategic importance. The officers of the Department of Mines and Resources have made special efforts to assist in the location of deposits of other metals and minerals that were formerly imported. Important among these is tungsten, manganese, and magnesium.

Canada's mineral production in 1941 was valued at \$560,746,875; this is the highest ever recorded and an increase of 5·8 p.c. over 1940. Gains were reported for all groups; metals reached \$395,372,577, an increase of 3·4 p.c. over the previous year; fuels, including coal, natural gas, crude petroleum and peat, \$84,548,486, a rise of 7·2 p.c.; other non-metallics, the most important of which is asbestos, \$34,123,685, a gain of 31·2 p.c.; and other structural materials, including clay products, cement, lime, stone and sand and gravel, \$46,702,127, which was 11 p.c. higher than in the preceding year.