

of the quantity production of each of the minerals and their value at average market prices for the year. The scope of the statistics now includes a general review of the principal mineral industries, such as the copper-gold, silver-lead-zinc, and nickel-copper industries, as well as a section on metallurgical works. Additional data published at irregular intervals, include such features as capital employed, numbers of employees, wages and salaries paid and net value of sales.

The figures for "net income from sales" of industries given in Tables 7 and 8 are those reported by the operators, and are in each case the settlements received for shipments by producers and the additional values obtained when the smelting of ores is completed in Canada. The totals indicate more nearly the actual returns to the different industries than do the values for the minerals in Table 2 of this 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 1943) 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. In addition, parts of Canada not hitherto of commercial importance have been opened up and 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 have been 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 1943 was valued at \$524,426,850; this figure is slightly lower than that of 1942, \$566,768,672, which was the highest ever recorded. Metals as a group totalled \$357,269,458, a decrease of 9 p.c. from that of the previous year; fuels, including coal, natural gas, crude petroleum and peat amounted to \$90,283,023, a decrease of 2 p.c.; other non-metallics showed a very slight difference, the figure being \$36,437,658 in 1943 as against \$36,677,122 in 1942; and other structural materials, including clay products, cement, lime, stone, sand and gravel, at \$40,436,711, decreased 12 p.c. from the preceding year.