

27.—Petroleum Production in the British Empire, 1941-44

Country	1941	1942	1943	1944 <sup>1</sup>	P.C. of Total 1944 <sup>1</sup>
	bbbl.	bbbl.	bbbl.	bbbl.	
Trinidad.....	21,150,000	21,500,000	25,000,000	22,000,000	51.9
Canada.....	10,123,904	10,384,019	10,123,205	9,919,100	23.3
Bahrein Island.....	7,070,000	7,250,000	6,570,000	6,800,000	15.9
Burma.....	7,900,000	2,500,000	913,000	915,000	2.1
Brunei.....	5,245,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
India.....	2,245,000	2,500,000	2,555,000	2,900,000	6.8
Sarawak.....	1,275,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	
<b>Totals, British Empire.....</b>	<b>55,008,904</b>	<b>44,134,019</b>	<b>45,161,205</b>	<b>42,534,100</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Totals, World.....</b>	<b>2,227,125,000</b>	<b>2,050,951,000</b>	<b>2,311,741,000</b>	<b>2,561,570,000</b>	<b>--</b>
P.C. British Empire of World.....	2.46	2.15	1.95	1.66	

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary figures.

Section 6.—World Production of Minerals

Since statistics for many countries are not available for the war years, complete figures of world production of minerals cannot be given. The latest available information on world production of gold, silver and coal will be found at pp. 317-319 of the 1943-44 Year Book, while those for such metals as copper, lead and nickel will be found in the 1942 edition under the respective Subsections.

Section 7.—Production of Non-Metallic Minerals  
(Excluding Fuels)

The most important Canadian minerals included in this group are asbestos, gypsum, quartz, salt and sulphur, and for each of these a brief description of occurrence and production follows. A reference to Table 2 at p. 299 and Table 6 at p. 304 shows numerous other minerals, used chiefly for chemical and industrial purposes, which are classified under this group. Among these may be mentioned feldspar, graphite, iron oxides (ochre), magnesian dolomite, mica, nepheline-syenite, silica brick, sodium sulphate, talc and soapstone. Statistics of production for recent years of these and other minerals of lesser importance appear in the tables mentioned above.

**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. During the depression years of the early 1930's, production was much curtailed, as will be seen from Table 28. However, since 1932, production has shown a distinct improvement. Production (mine sales) of asbestos in Canada during 1944 totalled 372,973 short tons valued at \$18,172,302, compared with 467,196 short tons worth \$23,169,505 in 1943. Other countries producing relatively large quantities of asbestos are Russia, Southern Rhodesia, Union of South Africa, United States, and Cyprus.

The Eastern Townships of Quebec have for many years been the most productive asbestos-mining area in the world. The veins of chrysotile asbestos vary in width from ¼ inch to ½ inch and occasionally fibre has been obtained several inches in length. The fibre is of good quality and well adapted to spinning. Both open-cut and underground methods of mining are employed throughout the Canadian