

to \$1,585,000 and \$936,000, respectively. In the Mayo District the mining of silver-lead ore from lode deposits was continued, but here, also, operations have declined as a result of labour shortages.

The fur trade continued to be a source of revenue for inhabitants of Yukon Territory, and in the year ended June 30, 1943, a total of 52,897 pelts, valued at \$338,035, was taken.

Subsection 2.—Provincial Public Lands

In the Maritime Provinces and in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia (except the Railway Belt and the Peace River Block) the public lands have been administered by the Provincial Governments since Confederation. Since the transfer by the Dominion Government of the natural resources of the Prairie Provinces and of sections of British Columbia (see also p. 1019 of the 1931 Year Book), public lands in all provinces have been under provincial administration. In Prince Edward Island, all of the land is alienated and there are no provincial public lands.

Information regarding provincial public lands may be obtained from the following officials of the respective provinces: Minister of Lands and Forests, Halifax, N.S.; Deputy Minister of Lands and Mines, Fredericton, N.B.; Deputy Minister of Lands and Forests, Quebec, Que.; Deputy Minister of Lands and Forests, Toronto, Ont.; Director of Lands, Department of Mines and Natural Resources, Winnipeg, Man.; Director of Lands, Department of Natural Resources, Regina, Sask.; Director of Lands, Department of Lands and Mines, Edmonton, Alta.; Deputy Minister of Lands, Victoria, B.C.

Section 2.—Department of Public Works

The constructing department of the Dominion Government, since before Confederation, has been known as the Department of Public Works. The work of the Department is divided into three principal branches, viz., the Engineering Branch, the Architect's Branch and the Telegraph Branch. An account of the work of each of these branches is given at pp. 949-950 of the 1941 Year Book, and a description of the five dry docks constructed by the Department is given at p. 618 of the 1942 edition.

Section 3.—The Indians and Eskimos of Canada

Subsection 1.—The Indians of Canada*

The Indians of Canada, whose affairs are administered by the Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, number 118,378 (according to a departmental census taken in 1939). The popular opinion that the race is disappearing is not in accordance with fact. Before the advent of the European, the number of Indians was undoubtedly larger, but little reliable information as to the aboriginal population, during either the French or the early British regimes, is available. The best estimate, however, of the aboriginal or Indian population of what is now Canada was slightly in excess of 200,000 or about double the present figure. During this twentieth century the trend has been upward with a gradual but fairly steady increase.

* Revised under the direction of H. W. McGill, M.D., Director, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources. For an outline of the early administration, see p. 937 of the 1932 Year Book.