

CHAPTER XII.—MINES AND MINERALS*

CONSPECTUS

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Historical Sketch.—A short historical outline of the development of the mineral industry in Canada is given at pp. 309-310 of the 1939 Year Book.

THE OUTLOOK FOR THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN RELATION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF CANADA†

NOTE.—In the 1940 edition of the Canada Year Book (p. 298) is an article entitled "The Development of Canadian Mineral Resources in Relation to the Present War Effort". This article gave a comprehensive idea of the role that the mineral industry, as developed in peacetime, could be expected to play in the Canadian war effort. By inference and by direct statement it was clear from the article that, in so far as a supply of mineral raw materials was concerned, Canada was in a position to undertake the production of munitions of war on a huge scale and, in addition, would be able to supply a large share of the Allied needs for these materials, in particular, the non-ferrous base metals.

The introductory paragraphs of the present article are in a sense a sequel to the above article, for they comprise, in the main, a brief account of the war record of the mineral industry. This is followed by a more lengthy consideration of the outlook for the industry in relation to the economic development of the country as a whole.

Contribution of the Mineral Industry to the War Effort

The Minister of Mines and Resources has stated publicly on several occasions (notably in an address before the Montreal Branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy on Jan. 11, 1946) that the Dominion's splendid war record can be traced in no small degree to the country's strong position as a producer

* Except where otherwise noted, this Chapter has been revised in co-operation with W. H. Losee, B.Sc., Chief of the Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A complete list of the publications of this Branch appears in Chapter XXXII.

† Prepared under the direction of W. B. Timm, Director, Mines and Geology Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, by G. H. Murray.