

sufficient to meet only a relatively small part of the requirements. It reached a peak of 10,364,796 barrels in 1942, in which year production from the Turner Valley Field reached a peak of 10,080,300 barrels. Output from that Field has shown a steady decline since then and the decline appears likely to continue. During the past three years several large United States and Canadian companies have been engaged in the geological exploration and drilling of various structures in the different sections of Alberta, but from a production viewpoint the results so far have not been particularly encouraging. Several areas in the Province, however, continue to receive active attention.

Non-Metallic Minerals.—Canada's production of this group of minerals reached a peak value of \$85,094,549 in 1945, of which \$46,806,342 was the value of clay products and other structural materials. Asbestos, with a value of \$21,405,391 was the largest single contributor to the output and was followed in order by cement valued at \$13,908,014, sand and gravel valued at \$10,513,992, stone valued at \$7,577,804, and salt valued at \$4,025,083.

With the chief exception of asbestos, gypsum, barite, and nepheline syenite, Canada's production of the non-metallic minerals is marketed mainly within the country. Their production is accordingly governed largely by domestic demand, and frequently by localized demand. Transportation costs are an important factor in the marketing of many of them and that factor, together with Canada's relatively small population, has hampered the development of deposits too far from populated areas and industrial centres. The supplies of most of them are abundant, however, and taking into account the important part that non-metallic minerals play in the industrial life of a nation, it is evident that, as the Canadian economy continues to expand, new outlets will be found for these minerals.

Though only a comparatively few of the long list of non-metallic minerals are exported in large quantities, this export trade is likely to be of increasing importance. The chief item on the list is asbestos, of which Canada has been the leading exporter for many years. A large part of the production is exported in the unmanufactured state and most of the exports go to the United States, though substantial quantities are shipped to the United Kingdom and Australia. The outlook for the industry appears to be good. Throughout the War, Canadian producers were able to sell their entire output in spite of the loss of overseas markets, and these markets are again open to Canadian fibre. Development of raw asbestos products has been rapid in recent years, with particular reference to asbestos-cement products which require the short grades of fibre, the marketing of which formerly constituted a problem.

Most of Canada's output of gypsum is also exported. Contracts for export are generally made early in the year with the producer for the year's requirements of the purchaser. Consumption of gypsum in Canada is approximately 180,000 tons a year, mostly as calcined product. Nova Scotia is the chief producer followed in order by Ontario, New Brunswick, Manitoba and British Columbia.

Canada, in recent years, has become an important producer and exporter of barite; the output in 1945 amounted to 140,200 tons, being more than five times greater than in 1943. All but a small percentage of the output comes from deposits in Hants County, N.S., and the remainder from a property south of Golden, B.C. During the last two years of the War, large tonnages of crude lump barite were