

west of Calgary), Medicine Hat, Viking (about 80 miles southeast of Edmonton), Redcliff, Foremost, Bow Island and Wetaskiwin. Wainwright, Alta., is supplied with gas from the Maple Leaf Well in the Fabyan field. In 1948, Alberta was credited with 56 p.c. of total value and 83 p.c. of the total quantity of natural gas. Ontario produced over 42 p.c. of the value and over 16 p.c. of the total quantity.

### 25.—Quantities and Values of Natural Gas Produced, by Provinces, 1939-48

NOTE.—For the years 1892-1919, see the Annual Report on the Mineral Production of Canada, 1923, p. 188; for the years 1920-28 see p. 347 of the 1940 Canada Year Book; and for 1929-38, p. 350 of the 1946 edition.

| Year                    | New Brunswick |         | Ontario    |           | Alberta    |           | Canada <sup>1</sup> |            |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|---------------------|------------|
|                         | M cu. ft.     | \$      | M cu. ft.  | \$        | M cu. ft.  | \$        | M cu. ft.           | \$         |
| 1939.....               | 606,382       | 292,403 | 11,966,581 | 7,261,928 | 22,513,660 | 4,915,821 | 35,185,146          | 12,507,307 |
| 1940.....               | 616,041       | 300,543 | 13,053,403 | 7,745,834 | 27,459,808 | 4,923,469 | 41,232,125          | 13,000,593 |
| 1941.....               | 658,542       | 317,437 | 11,828,703 | 7,140,130 | 30,905,440 | 5,175,364 | 43,495,353          | 12,665,116 |
| 1942.....               | 619,380       | 299,688 | 10,476,770 | 6,809,901 | 34,482,585 | 6,146,146 | 45,697,359          | 13,301,655 |
| 1943.....               | 675,029       | 327,787 | 7,914,408  | 6,543,913 | 35,569,078 | 6,241,815 | 44,276,216          | 13,159,418 |
| 1944.....               | 702,464       | 341,636 | 7,082,508  | 4,694,097 | 37,161,570 | 6,339,817 | 45,067,153          | 11,422,541 |
| 1945.....               | 653,230       | 317,568 | 7,199,970  | 4,837,586 | 40,393,061 | 7,095,910 | 48,411,585          | 12,309,564 |
| 1946.....               | 541,010       | 262,441 | 7,051,309  | 4,656,528 | 40,097,096 | 7,184,006 | 47,900,484          | 12,165,050 |
| 1947.....               | 489,810       | 279,790 | 7,785,921  | 5,334,991 | 44,106,643 | 7,745,886 | 52,656,567          | 13,429,558 |
| 1948 <sup>2</sup> ..... | 416,826       | 237,590 | 9,032,913  | 6,142,380 | 46,800,000 | 8,190,000 | 56,636,951          | 14,608,689 |

<sup>1</sup> Includes small amounts produced in Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. figures subject to revision.

<sup>2</sup> 1948

### Subsection 5.—Production of Non-Metallic Minerals (Excluding Fuels)

The most important minerals in this group are asbestos, gypsum and salt, but it also includes numerous other items such as feldspar, graphite, iron oxide, magnesitic dolomite, mica, nepheline syenite, peat moss, sulphur, silica brick, sodium sulphate, soapstone and talc.

**Asbestos.**—The asbestos produced in Canada is practically all of the chrysotile variety and comes entirely from the serpentized rock in the Eastern Townships of Quebec. The value of the annual production of asbestos increased from less than \$24,700 in 1880 to \$33,005,748 in 1947 and \$41,318,118 in 1948. The Canadian deposits are the largest known in the world. The producing centres are Thetford Mines, which has been producing since 1878, Black Lake, East Broughton, Vimy Ridge, Asbestos, and St. Remi de Tingwick in Quebec. The veins of chrysotile asbestos vary in width from one-quarter inch to one-half inch and occasionally fibre has been obtained several inches in length. The fibre is of good quality and well adapted to spinning.

The world's largest market is in the United States and Canada's proximity to this market is very advantageous to the asbestos industry in this country.

### 26.—Quantities and Values of Asbestos Produced, 1939-48

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1896-1910, inclusive, will be found at p. 424 of the 1911 Year Book; for the years 1911-26 at p. 354 of the 1939 edition; and for 1929-38 at p. 353 of the 1946 edition.

| Year      | Quantity   | Value      | Year                    | Quantity   | Value      |
|-----------|------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
|           | short tons | \$         |                         | short tons | \$         |
| 1939..... | 364,472    | 15,859,212 | 1944.....               | 419,265    | 20,619,516 |
| 1940..... | 346,805    | 15,619,865 | 1945.....               | 466,897    | 22,805,157 |
| 1941..... | 477,846    | 21,468,840 | 1946.....               | 558,181    | 25,240,562 |
| 1942..... | 439,459    | 22,663,283 | 1947.....               | 661,821    | 33,005,748 |
| 1943..... | 467,196    | 23,169,505 | 1948 <sup>1</sup> ..... | 707,843    | 41,318,118 |

<sup>1</sup> 1948 figures subject to revision.