

# CHAPTER XV.—MINES AND MINERALS\*

## CONSPECTUS

SECTION	PAGE	SECTION	PAGE
1. CANADA'S MINERAL RESOURCES.....	486	Subsection 3. Production of Metallic Minerals.....	508
2. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AID TO THE MINING INDUSTRY.....	495	Subsection 4. Production and Consumption of Fuels.....	515
3. MINING LEGISLATION.....	499	Subsection 5. Production of Non-metallic Minerals.....	520
4. STATISTICS OF MINERAL PRODUCTION.....	501	Subsection 6. Production of Clay Products and Other Structural Materials..	522
Subsection 1. Value and Volume of Mineral Production.....	501	5. INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRIES.....	525
Subsection 2. Provincial Distribution of Mineral Production.....	506	6. WORLD PRODUCTION OF METALLIC MINERALS AND FUELS.....	529

NOTE.—*The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.*

### Section 1.—Canada's Mineral Resources†

The mining industry in Canada has reached the point where in terms of contribution to the national income—the truest measure of the significance of any industry—it ranks second to agriculture among the primary extractive industries. It was credited with 3·3 p.c. of the national income of \$10,938,000,000 in 1947 (the latest year for which the subdivision of Canada's national income by industrial divisions is available), agriculture with 13·0 p.c., and forestry with 2·4 p.c. The leading industrial division was manufacturing, which supplied 30·2 p.c., followed by retail and wholesale trade with 15·2 p.c.

The contribution of the mining industry represents the net return to those engaged in basic mining, and that is the only quantitative means for comparing mining with manufacturing and other conventional industrial divisions. Mine products played a highly important part in the contribution of the manufacturing industries; such industries classified as using materials principally of mineral origin (domestic and/or imported) accounted for 39 p.c. of the gross value of all manufactured products in 1947. The construction industry also depends largely upon products of the mine and, in the case of transportation, mine products (domestic and foreign) consistently account for more than one-third of the volume of freight handled by Canadian railways, the proportion being 37 p.c. in 1948.

The event that started Canada on the road to being a great mining country, particularly in the production of metallic minerals, was the discovery of silver in the Cobalt area in 1903 during the construction of the Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. The wave of exploration that followed that discovery and continued until fo- ced to spend itself during the First World War gave birth to Cobalt,

\* Except where otherwise noted, this Chapter has been revised in the Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Section, Industry and Merchandising Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

† Prepared under the direction of Marc Boyer, Deputy Minister, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, by L. O. Thomas, Mineral Resources Division.