

2,556,000 tons in 1949, the latter tonnage accounting for over 84 p.c. of the total for Canada. Over 97 p.c. of the barite produced in Canada comes from Nova Scotia and further increase is contemplated from a newly discovered deposit in Colchester County.

The metal output of the Province has been small in recent years. Some gold has been produced every year since 1862, the peak output of 29,943 oz. being attained in 1939. During the War the output fell off greatly and there has been no recovery since. A mere 64 oz. was recorded in 1949. That, together with 3 oz. of silver, represented the entire metal output of the Province for that year. Iron ore has been mined from 1876 to 1913, the greatest yearly output being 102,201 tons in 1893, and zinc-lead-copper ore, containing 25,574,000 lb. of zinc was removed in the period 1936-40. Consideration is being given to resuscitating the mining of zinc, which occurs in Cape Breton Island.

Nova Scotia ranked fourth among the Provinces in the output of clay products in 1949.

New Brunswick.—Coal was by far the outstanding item in New Brunswick's peak mineral output of \$7,134,000 in 1949. The output of 541,000 tons of coal, valued at \$3,911,000, produced from the Grand Lake Basin, was the largest in the Province's history. The principal other items, apart from clay products and other structural materials, included gypsum, natural gas and petroleum.

Gypsum has been produced each year in Albert County for more than 75 years—for a longer period than any other mineral product of New Brunswick, not excepting even coal, which ranks second in that respect.

Small amounts of petroleum and natural gas have been produced yearly from the Stoney Creek field since about 1910, their peak annual outputs being, respectively, 31,359 bbl. in 1941 and 828,603 M cu. ft. in 1913.

There has been no production of metallic minerals in New Brunswick other than 345,912 tons of iron ore and small tonnages occasionally of manganese ore. The greatest annual output of manganese ore was 584 tons in 1924. Deposits of copper, lead and zinc are common but exploratory work has so far failed to find one of commercial size.

Quebec.—Quebec, which ranks second to Ontario in mineral output, produces a wide variety of minerals. Production in 1949 reached a peak value of \$165,022,000, 18.3 p.c. of the total mineral value for Canada.

Asbestos, gold, copper and zinc are outstanding contributors to the mineral wealth of the Province. In 1949, despite a strike in the asbestos industry, those four mineral products accounted for more than 71 p.c. of the value of the Province's output of minerals.

Asbestos has been produced every year since 1879 and the output to the end of 1949 totalled 12,076,000 tons valued at \$521,493,000. The entire amount has come from the Eastern Townships of Quebec. Quebec leads also in the production of certain other industrial non-metallic minerals, most of which, however, are produced in small amounts; of these, magnesitic dolomite (now preferably called dolomitic magnesite) and brucitic limestones, mined only in Quebec, have been used to some extent for producing magnesium metal, but its main application is to the production of the greater part of Canada's requirements of basic refractories. No coal, petroleum or natural gas is produced in this Province.