

largest in the world, and have been estimated by the Newfoundland Geological Survey as "considerably in excess of 20,000,000 tons," making the Province one of the world's major sources of this very important mineral. A small production has been obtained for many years from Madoc, Ont., and it was formerly produced at the Rock Candy mine in British Columbia. In 1953, a new occurrence of purple fluor spar was reported on the Alaska Highway at Lower Liard Crossing, B.C. The Canadian production in 1953 reached a new high of 90,078 tons valued at \$2,657,104.

Fluor spar is essential to aluminum production, is used as a flux in the steel industry, and is a raw material for the manufacture of hydrofluoric acid which itself has a great variety of uses. Other uses are in the manufacture of glass, enamel, and magnesium metal.

Canada is second among the nations in production of *gypsum*, a mineral composed of hydrous calcium sulphate. It is found in every province except Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan, and is quarried in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia. Production in 1953 amounted to 3,765,763 tons valued at \$7,487,928. Nearly three-quarters of the production is exported, mainly by sea, to gypsum-manufacturing plants along the Atlantic coast of the United States as far south as Florida.

In 1953, National Gypsum (Canada) Limited prepared to open up a very large gypsum deposit near Milford, N.S. Most of the production will be exported to the United States by boat from Dartmouth, N.S. Canada's largest producer is Canadian Gypsum Company Limited which has just completed a large new gypsum manufacturing plant at Montreal, Que., to make plaster, wall board, and lath from Nova Scotia gypsum. The largest manufacturer of gypsum products is Gypsum, Lime and Alabastine, Canada, Limited which operates several plants across Canada.

Gypsum finds its principal use as a construction material in the form of wall plaster, wall board, sheathing board, lath and tile, but quantities are also used for dental plaster, moulding plaster, surgical plaster, Keene's cement, agricultural gypsum, Portland-cement retarder, pottery, plasters and mineral filler.

It is potentially important as a chemical raw material: in some countries gypsum is used, for example, as a source of sulphuric acid but this use is not, as yet, economic on this continent. Associated with the gypsum in most localities are large deposits of anhydrite, or anhydrous calcium sulphate which is not utilized to any extent.

Rocks such as limestone, granite, shale, and sandstone form a very valuable part of the industrial mineral resources of Canada. Found in all parts of the country they are the basis of many industries: building-stone, cement, lime, crushed stone, brick and tile, refractories, silica, and so on. Exact statistics are difficult to obtain but it is estimated that in 1953 more than 32,000,000 tons of rock were quarried in Canada.

Limestone is the most widely quarried and extensively used of all the rocks. In 1953 over 25,000,000 tons were quarried. Practically every known variety of limestone except chalk is available as well as several unusual types such as brucitic limestone, and magnesitic dolomite. Brucitic limestone, found in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, contains granules of brucite (magnesium hydroxide) scattered through the limestone matrix. It is quarried near Wakefield, Que., by the Aluminum Company of Canada Limited for the production of magnesia, quicklime, hydrated lime, and agricultural limestone. The magnesia, in turn, is used for the making of