

Laboratories Branch.—The Provincial Assay Office, located in the East Block of the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, carries out wet analyses and assays of metal and rock constituents on a custom fee basis and also renders the same service free of charge to holders of valid assay coupons issued for the performance of assessment work on mining claims. The Timiskaming Testing Laboratories situated at Cobalt, in addition to performing fire assays and chemical analyses, conducts a bulk sampling plant mainly to assist the producers of the area in the marketing of the cobalt-silver ores. A Cable Testing Laboratory, wherein all hoisting ropes in use at the mines are periodically tested, is operated under the supervision of the Inspection Branch.

Inspection Branch.—The main function of this Branch is the regular examination of all operating mines, quarries, sand and gravel pits and certain metallurgical works with a view to ensuring proper conditions of health and safety to the men employed. District offices to serve the local areas are maintained in the major mining centres of the Province. Mine rescue stations in the principal mining sections are operated under the supervision of the Inspection Branch.

Exhibitions.—The Department each year presents displays pertaining to mining within the Province at such exhibitions as the Central Canada at Ottawa, the Canadian National at Toronto, and at other centres from time to time.

Publications Branch.—All maps and reports of the Department are distributed through the agency of the Publications Branch located at the main office of the Department.

Library.—A mining library for the use of the Department and the public is maintained within the Department. This library is comprised mainly of publications and maps of the Federal and Provincial Governments of Canada as well as of numerous periodicals and bulletins from the United States.

Mining Roads.—The most recent service of the Department is the provision of mining roads. In general, two classes of road-building are envisioned under this program. The first class of road contemplated is a mining access road, financed solely by the Department, for the purpose of opening up favourable areas for exploration; the second class of road, undertaken jointly by the Department and local mining operators, is intended to assist in the provision of required service roads to such operators.

Manitoba.—The Mines Branch of the Manitoba Department of Mines and Natural Resources offers four main services of assistance to the mining industry: (1) maintenance, by the Mining Recorder's office at Winnipeg and The Pas, of all records essential to the granting and retention of titles to every mineral location in Manitoba; (2) compilation, by the geological staff of the Branch, of information pertinent to mineral occurrences of interest both in the past and the present and expansion of this information by a continuing program of geological mapping; (3) enforcement of mine safety regulations and, by collaboration with industry, introduction of new practices, such as those concerned with mine ventilation and the training of mine rescue crews, which contribute to the health and welfare of mine