

**Provincial Mining Laws and Regulations.**\*—All Crown mineral lands lying within the boundaries of the several provinces (with the exception of those within Indian reserves and National Parks which are under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government) are administered by the respective provincial governments.

The granting of land in any province except Ontario and Nova Scotia no longer carries with it mining rights upon or under such land. In Ontario mineral rights are expressly reserved if they are not to be included. In Nova Scotia all minerals belong to the Crown except limestone, gypsum and building materials and, in granting land from the Crown, the right to these minerals goes with the title. In Newfoundland mineral and quarry rights are expressly reserved. Some early grants in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Quebec and Newfoundland also included certain mineral rights. Otherwise mining rights except in Newfoundland must be separately obtained by lease or grant from the provincial authority administering the mining laws and regulations. Mining activities may be classified as placer, general minerals (or veined minerals and bedded minerals), fuels (coal, petroleum, gas) and quarrying. Provincial mining regulations under these divisions are summarized as follows:—

*Placer.*—In those provinces in which placer deposits occur there are regulations defining the size of placer holdings, the terms under which they may be acquired and held and the royalties to be paid.

*General Minerals.*—These minerals are sometimes described as quartz, lode, or minerals in place. With the exception of British Columbia the most elaborate laws and regulations apply in this division. In all provinces except Alberta a prospector's or miner's licence, valid for one year, must be obtained to search for mineral deposits, the licence being general in some areas but limited in others. A claim of promising ground of a specified size may then be staked. This claim must be recorded within a time limit and payment of recording fees made except in Quebec where no fees are required. Work to a specified value per annum must be performed upon the claim for a period of up to ten years. There is no time limit in British Columbia but \$500 assessment work, of which a survey may represent one-fifth, must be performed and recorded before a lease may be obtained. In Quebec a specified number of man-days of work must be performed and the excess may be carried forward for renewals of licence. Before mining can be commenced a mining concession must be purchased for which it is necessary to produce an engineer's report indicating the presence of an orebody. The taxation applied most frequently is a percentage of net profits of producing mines or royalties. In the Province of Newfoundland the provincial mining tax has been modified since Confederation on Mar. 31, 1949, to conform with the provincial obligations under the Dominion-Provincial Tax Agreement. No other form of taxation or royalty now exists.

*Fuels.*—In provinces where coal occurs the size of holdings is laid down, together with the conditions of work and rental under which they may be held. In Quebec, ordinary mining claims give rights to all mineral substances and to their development, and stakings for combustible natural gas, salt, coal, mineral oil or naphtha, or iron sands may cover 1,280 acres per claim. Royalties are sometimes provided for. Acts or regulations govern methods of production. In the search for petroleum and natural gas an exploration permit or reservation is usually required. However, in Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia leases usually follow the exploration reservation whether or not any discovery of oil or gas is made because exploration costs are applicable in part on the first year's

\* Compiled from material supplied by the provincial governments.