

Subsection 6.—Production of Structural Materials

Active construction throughout Canada has kept production of structural materials at a high level in recent years. After a slight decrease in 1960 the value of such materials produced reached \$323,092,906 in 1961. In point of value, sand and gravel is the most important of the structural materials, followed by cement, stone, clay products and lime. Developments in certain structural materials industries during 1961 are covered in the review at p. 494.

Sand and Gravel.—Deposits of sand and gravel are numerous throughout Eastern Canada, with the exception of Prince Edward Island where gravels are scarce. The local needs for these materials are usually supplied from the nearest deposits as their cost to the consumer is governed largely by the length of haul. This accounts for the large number of small pits and the small number of large plants in operation. Every province except New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island produces natural bonded sand but some grades particularly suitable for certain industries command much higher prices than ordinary sand. The greater part of the sand and gravel output is used in road improvement, concrete works, or as railway ballast and most of the commercial plants are equipped for producing crushed gravel, a product that can compete with crushed stone.

In 1961 an estimated 178,500,000 tons of sand and gravel were produced, valued at \$106,413,509. This represented a decrease of 7.1 p.c. in quantity and 4.3 p.c. in value from 1960. Quebec and Ontario together contributed 67.6 p.c. of the quantity. The breakdown of these totals by purpose was not available at the time of going to press.

29.—Quantity and Value of Sand, and Sand and Gravel Produced, 1958-60

Material and Purpose	1958		1959		1960	
	Quantity	Gross Value	Quantity	Gross Value	Quantity	Gross Value
	tons	\$	tons	\$	tons	\$
Sand—						
Moulding sand.....	21,346	98,179	1	1	1	1
For building, concrete, roads, etc..	13,232,445	11,902,625	15,556,197	13,325,181	16,075,366	12,996,753
Other.....	313,391	171,691	177,977	107,073	561,896	398,981
Sand and Gravel—						
For railway ballast.....	8,373,117	3,624,978	8,303,445	2,836,993	137,594,684	68,857,398
For concrete, roads, etc.....	106,229,805	55,362,687	128,056,334	61,874,585	7,765,514	3,960,814
For mine filling.....	4,233,347	2,042,032	2,611,603	798,510	2,558,262	1,117,099
Crushed gravel.....	27,807,494	23,080,171	30,418,190	25,709,119	27,518,776	23,832,841
Totals, Sand and Gravel.....	160,210,945	96,282,363	185,123,746	104,651,461	192,074,498	111,163,886

¹ Included under feldspar and quartz in 1959 and 1960.

Cement.—The production of cement in Canada reached its peak in 1959, output in 1961 being down 2.2 p.c. from that point. However, consumption was up in 1961 by 4.8 p.c., continuing the almost steadily upward trend in evidence throughout the postwar period. Of the Canadian total of 6,145,168 tons produced in 1961, Ontario contributed 36.1 p.c. and Quebec 32.5 p.c. and all other provinces except Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia contributed varying amounts; output increases in 1961 took place in Ontario, Quebec, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Alberta and New Brunswick.