

CHAPTER XIII.—MINES AND MINERALS

CONSPECTUS

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The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found on p. viii of this volume.

Section 1.—Canada's Mineral Industry, 1962-63*

Canada's mineral industry continued to grow and diversify in 1963 as production value reached an all-time high of \$3,000,000,000. Each of the three sectors of the industry—metals, industrial minerals, and mineral fuels—contributed to the 5.3-p.c. over-all increase in output, with mineral fuels production registering the largest advance.

The growth of the industry may also be measured by the index of physical volume of mineral production which reached a new high at 294 (base 1949=100), up from 287 the previous year. The metals index was 194 compared with 198 in 1962; the industrial minerals index rose from 222 to 228; and the mineral fuels index advanced sharply from 481 to 514. The per capita value of mineral output rose in 1963 to an estimated \$158.94 from the previous high of \$153.53 in 1962; in 1950 it was \$76.24. Since 1950, per capita mineral production has increased at an average annual rate of 5.9 p.c. compared with an average annual gain of 4.3 p.c. in per capita value of Canada's gross national product (GNP), as measured in terms of current dollars.

In addition to a new record for the value of mineral production in 1963, the mineral industry experienced a very successful year from several other points of view. Exploration activity and investment generally remained at high levels and accelerated in some directions. Development of properties for production and expansion of established facilities provided for further gains in output and greater diversification in the years ahead. The export of minerals in the form of ore and raw materials and in semi-processed forms continued to account for about one third of Canada's total merchandise exports, which in 1963 were worth \$6,800,000,000. The Canadian mineral industry remained in the forefront among world producers in market development and in the adoption of mining, milling

*Prepared under the direction of Dr. W. E. van Steenburgh, Deputy Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys, Ottawa, in the following Divisions: Introduction and Subsections 1 and 3 by the Mineral Resources Division; Subsection 2 by the Mineral Processing Division, Mines Branch; and Subsection 4 by the Fuels and Mining Practice Division, Mines Branch.