

# 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, 1963-64\*

The Canadian mineral industry in 1964 continued its record of production, expansion and diversification that has been such a strong factor in Canada's economic growth. Value of production rose 11.3 p.c. to a new high of \$3,397,000,000 from the previous peak of \$3,050,000,000 established in 1963. The high rate of advance, compared with advances of 4 to 8 p.c. each year since 1958, was the result of several factors—the first full year's production from several large mining projects, the start of production from other undertakings, the continuing buoyancy of the economies of major industrial nations, generally higher mineral and metal prices, and the strong competitive position of Canadian minerals and metals in most market areas.

The Canadian mineral industry is strongly export-oriented, about 60 p.c. of its output going to foreign countries. About 80 p.c. of mineral and metal exports go to the United States and nearly all of the remainder to Britain, Western Europe and Japan. Of total merchandise exports in 1963 valued at nearly \$6,800,000,000, \$2,243,000,000 were minerals and metals; of total exports in 1964 amounting to \$8,095,000,000, \$2,585,000,000 were minerals and metals. The mineral industry continues to be of first importance in helping to maintain and improve Canada's favourable balance-of-trade position. The growth of the mineral industry is most properly measured by the rise in the quantity index of mineral production which reached 326.5 (1949=100) from 294.4 in 1963. The metals index was 210.7 compared with 193.8 in 1963; the industrial minerals index rose from 228.1 to 324.9†, and the mineral fuels index again advanced sharply from 513.6 to 554.7. The per capita value of mineral production increased to \$176.61 from \$161.43. Capital investment and repair expenditures in the mineral industry were at an all-time high of \$794,000,000,

\* 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. Figures for 1964, except those in Subsection 4 on coal, are preliminary.

† See footnote † Table 8, p. 588.