During 1965, potash mine development was under way by six companies. Four shafts were being sunk, preliminary drilling of freeze holes was under way for six other shafts, two refineries were under construction and four additional refineries were being designed. Start of development by two, and possibly more, companies is expected in 1966. These projects indicate a Canadian potash productive capacity of 2,500,000 tons of K_2O in 1968, 7,000,000 tons in 1970, and 9,000,000 tons in 1975, although this achievement will depend on the successful meeting of the construction schedules laid out as well as on continued strength in potash markets. World potash consumption increased more than 10 p.c. in 1965, a rate much higher than normal, to set a new demand peak and, despite high rates of production throughout the world, shortages occurred in some areas and prices increased slightly. Although future markets cannot be guaranteed, there is good reason to believe that demand for all fertilizer materials will continue to increase at a higher rate than the average of the past 20 years. The enormous reserves of high-grade ore available in Saskatchewan assure producers of a dominant place in the world potash industry.

Salt.—The output of salt continued its upward trend in 1965, reaching a high point in quantity. All producing provinces recorded increases but Ontario continued to account for 84 p.c. of the total tonnage. Rock salt is mined in Nova Scotia and Ontario; brine wells are operated in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. It is of interest to note that salt is also a by-product of the potash operations in Saskatchewan, more than one ton of salt being produced for every ton of refined potash. By 1970, when potash production is expected to approach 12,000,000 tons of product (KCl) annually, the rate of production of by-product salt will probably exceed 18,000,000 tons. However, major markets for this material are lacking; although research into utilization in road and soil stabilization programs is under way and small quantities are used for ice control during winter months, large tonnages will continue to accumulate at increasing rates as new potash mines are developed and brought into production.

18.—Producers' Shipments of Salt, by Province, and Total Value, 1956-65

NOTE.—Figures from 1926 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1946 edition.

Year	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Canada	
						Quantity	Value
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	$
1956	132,539	1,347,729	21,068	42,814	46,654	1,590,804	12,144,476
1957	122,763	1,538,805	19,372	43,684	46,935	1,771,559	13,989,703
1958	125,872	2,126,483	20,560	46,511	55,786	2,375,192	14,989,542
1959	120,225	3,036,230	23,547	48,776	61,198	3,289,976	18,034,522
1960	163,901	3,007,599	21,925	49,064	72,431	3,314,920	19,355,658
1961	225,875	2,861,705	23,103	51,964	83,880	3,246,527	19,552,006
1962	312,519	3,155,589	25,010	54,931	90,729	3,638,778	21,927,135
1963	356,902	3,187,491	24,883	56,301	96,417	3,721,994	22,316,565
1964	448,808	3,335,683	27,744	74,952	101,411	3,988,598	20,203,742
1965[p]	469,000	3,649,000	30,700	77,000	105,400	4,331,100	21,564,734

Sulphur.—"Sour" natural gas found in Alberta and British Columbia is the source of most of the elemental sulphur produced in Canada, other sources being smelter gas and pyrites. In all forms, sulphur production amounted to some 2,770,000 tons, of which sour gas was the source of 69.0 p.c. and the others 18.5 p.c. and 12.5 p.c., respectively. During 1965 elemental sulphur was produced at 10 plants in Alberta and at one plant in British Columbia. Total shipments amounted to 1,908,000 tons. A small amount of elemental sulphur is also produced at several oil refineries in Eastern Canada, where sour gas from refining processes is used as a source material.