Open-cut methods of mining are adopted almost invariably throughout the Canadian asbestos fields. Nearly all the mining companies have installed machinery for the crushing, fibrizing, screening and grading of the mine product. In addition, since June, 1924, the Canadian Johns-Manville Co. have been operating a plant where crude asbestos is manufactured into various finished products such as paper and board, roofing, shingles, insulation and asbestos textiles of which packings and brake linings form the major part.

35.—Production of Asbestos and Asbestic in Canada, calendar years 1909-1926.

Years.	Asbestos.		Asbestic.		Total.	
	Tons.	$	Tons.	$	Tons.	$
1909	63,349	2,284,587	23,951	17,188	87,300	2,301,775
1910	77,508	2,555,974	24,707	17,629	102,215	2,573,603
1911	101,393	2,922,062	26,021	21,046	127,414	2,943,108
1912	111,561	3,117,572	24,740	19,707	136,301	3,137,279
1913	136,951	3,830,909	24,135	19,016	161,086	3,849,925
1914	96,542	2,892,266	21,031	17,540	117,573	2,909,806
1915	111,142	3,553,166	25,700	21,819	136,842	3,574,985
1916	133,439	5,199,797	20,710	29,072	154,149	5,228,869
1917	135,502	7,183,099	18,279	47,284	153,781	7,230,383
1918	141,462	8,936,804	16,797	33,993	158,259	8,970,797
1919	136,765	10,909,452	22,471	65,917	159,236	10,975,369
1920	167,731	13,677,841	20,956	57,601	188,687	13,735,442
1921	92,761	4,906,230	1	1	92,761	4,906,230
1922	163,706	5,552,723	1	1	163,706	5,552,723
1923	231,482	7,522,506	1	1	231,482	7,522,506
1924	225,744	6,710,830	1	1	225,744	6,710,830
1925	290,389	8,988,360	1	1	290,389	8,988,360
1926[2]	279,389	10,095,487	1	1	279,389	10,095,487

[1] Included with asbestos. [2] Preliminary figures.

3.—Other Non-Metallic Minerals.

Natural Gas.—The production of natural gas has increased in value from $1,300,000 in 1910 to $6,833,005 in 1925. The producing gas wells are situated in the counties of Welland, Haldimand, Norfolk, Kent, Essex and Bruce, in Ontario, at Moncton, New Brunswick, and in the vicinity of Medicine Hat, Calgary and Viking in Alberta. The quantity of gas sold or used in 1925 was nearly 16,903,000 M cubic feet. Of the total value, Ontario was credited with about 58 p.c.

Petroleum.—The production of crude petroleum in Canada during 1925 was more than double that of the previous year (332,001 barrels as compared with 160,773 barrels). Of this production 143,134 barrels came from Ontario, 5,376 from New Brunswick and 183,491 from Alberta. Alberta thus produced more than all the rest of Canada and entirely accounted for the doubled production in 1925. The Turner Valley field is the principal source of production in Alberta, and contains the famous Royalite No. 4 well, which produced at the average rate of 430 barrels per day during 1925. The wells in this field give a wet gas from which a very high grade of crude naphtha is separated. The producing horizons in Western Canada were formerly considered to be the Dakota and Kootenay shale formations of the Upper and Lower Cretaceous periods, but the Royalite No. 4 well has proved that much better producing horizons exist in a lower formation, a brown porous dolomitic limestone, below the Kootenay formation. A small production of petroleum has also been obtained in the Wainwright field, about 120 miles east of Edmonton, where the oil is heavy and of a lower grade. The principal Ontario oil fields are situated in the southwestern peninsula between lake Huron and lake Erie. The oil districts are all situated within an area underlain by Devonian strata, usually in an anticlinal axis, and the petroleum is largely obtained from the horizons in the Onondaga at varying depths in the different localities.