

Section 3.—Industrial Statistics of Mines and Minerals— Capital, Labour, Wages, etc., in the Mineral Industries.

Annual statistical reports on the mineral production of Canada have been published for many years, first by the Geological Survey, later by the Mines Branch of the Department of Mines and, since 1921, by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Prior to that year the annual statistics of mines were confined chiefly to a presentation of the quantity production of each of the minerals and their value at average market prices for the year. The scope of the statistics now includes a general review of the principal mineral industries, such as the copper-gold, silver-lead-zinc, and nickel-copper industries, as well as a section on metallurgical works. The additional data include such features as capital employed, numbers of employees, wages and salaries paid, and net value of sales, while for 1934 and 1935 there was added a special survey of expenditures for equipment, supplies, freight, and insurance by the mining industry, and for 1937 a similar survey for the metal-mining and smelting industries only. The aim has been to extend the mining statistics beyond a summary of the production of individual minerals, by approaching the subject from the standpoint of industrial organization, definitely illustrating the place that mining holds in the scheme of Canadian productive enterprise.

A new figure "net income from sales" has been introduced since 1935 in accordance with a recommendation adopted by the Conference of Commonwealth Statisticians in Ottawa in 1935. The net income from sales is obtained by deducting the cost of fuel, electricity, and consumable supplies (explosives, lubricants, chemicals, etc.), consumed in the production process, from the net sales. In view of the fact that statistics of process supplies were not collected prior to 1935, it is impossible to present statistics of net income from sales for previous years comparable to this new figure.

The figures for net income from sales of industries given in Tables 7 and 8 are those reported by the operators, and are in each case the settlements received for shipments by producers and the additional values obtained when the smelting of ores is completed in Canada. The totals indicate more nearly the actual return to the different industries than do the values for the minerals in Table 2 of this chapter where, in the cases of copper, lead, zinc, and silver, the values are computed by applying the average prices for the year in the principal metal markets to the total production from mines and smelters with no reduction for fuel, electricity, and other supplies consumed in the production process. Some imported ores and concentrates are treated in Canadian non-ferrous smelting and refining works. The net sales of these plants include, therefore, the net value of the metals recovered from these imported ores and to this extent the net sales shown in Tables 7 and 8 include products not of Canadian origin.

Subsection 1.—Principal Factors in the Mineral Industries.

Capital.—In connection with the item of capital, operators are requested to report *only the capital actually invested in the enterprises*, including: (1) present value of lands, buildings, plant, machinery, and tools; (2) cost of materials on hand, supplies, finished products, and ore on dump; and (3) cash, trading and operating accounts, and bills receivable. It should be specially noted that no estimate of ore reserves is included in the capital. Capital expenditures in mining ventures are frequently very difficult to designate. For instance, purely exploratory work-