

General Minerals.—These minerals are sometimes described as quartz, lode, or minerals in place. With the exception of British Columbia the most elaborate laws and regulations apply in this division. In all provinces except Alberta a prospector's or miner's licence, valid for one year, must be obtained to search for mineral deposits, the licence being general in some areas but limited in others. A claim of promising ground of a specified size may then be staked. This claim must be recorded within a time limit and payment of recording fees made except in Quebec where no fees are required. Work to a specified value per annum must be performed upon the claim for a period of up to ten years. There is no time limit in British Columbia but \$500 assessment work, of which a survey may represent one-fifth, must be performed and recorded before a Crown grant may be obtained. In Quebec a specified number of man-days of work must be performed and the excess may be carried forward for renewals of licence. Before mining can be commenced a mining concession must be purchased for which it is necessary to produce an engineer's report indicating the presence of an orebody. The taxation applied most frequently is a percentage of net profits of producing mines or royalties. In the Province of Newfoundland the provincial mining tax has been modified since Confederation on Mar. 31, 1949 to conform with the provincial obligations under the Federal-Provincial Tax Agreement. No other form of taxation or royalty now exists.

Fuels.—In provinces where coal occurs the size of holdings is laid down, together with the conditions of work and rental under which they may be held. In Quebec ordinary mining claims give rights to all mineral substances and to their development, and stakings for combustible natural gas, salt, coal, mineral oil or naphtha, or iron sands may cover 1,280 acres per claim. Royalties are sometimes provided for. Acts or regulations govern methods of production. In the search for petroleum and natural gas an exploration permit or reservation is usually required. However in Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia leases usually follow the exploration reservation whether or not any discovery of oil or gas is made because exploration costs are applicable in part on the first year's rental. In other provinces except Manitoba the discovery of oil or gas is usually prerequisite to obtaining a lease or grant of a limited area, subject to carrying out drilling obligations and paying a rental, a fee, or a royalty on production.

Quarrying.—Regulations under this heading define the size of holdings and the terms of lease or grant. On Quebec private lands the quarry belongs to the owner; on Crown lands mineral rights belong to the Crown and may be obtained in accordance with the provisions of the law although the rights to exploit peat or marl must be obtained by special licence. In British Columbia quarry rights are not reserved in Crown grants.

Copies of mining legislation including regulations and other details may be obtained from the provincial authorities concerned.

Section 4.—Statistics of Mineral Production*

The importance of mineral production as compared with other primary industries in Canada is indicated in Chapter XVII and its part in the foreign trade of Canada is dealt with in Chapter XXII.

Subsection 1.—Value and Volume of Mineral Production

Historical Statistics.—Definite records of the annual value of mineral production go back to 1886 only, although actual production began with the earliest settlements. The figures given in Table 1 are not strictly comparable throughout the whole period as minor changes have been adopted in methods of computing both the metallic content of ores sold and the valuations of the products. Earlier methods resulted in a somewhat higher value than those now in use would have shown. However the changes do not interfere with the general usefulness of the figures in showing the broad trends in the mineral industry.

* Revised in the Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Section, Industry and Merchandising Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.