

James Robertson Estate and the latter by the Kingston Smelting Co. In 1916 the total production was 796,833 lbs., valued at \$70,863.

MICA. The production is principally in the hands of large operators, of which the General Electric Co., controlling the Loughborough Mining Co., is chief. They produce large quantities from the Lacey Mine, near Sydenham, and from near Perth. The output, 1917, chiefly of amber variety, was 435 tons rough cobbled mica, worth \$85,353. Canadian mica has a good reputation for flexibility, freedom from stains, etc. Export trade chiefly with U.S. and Great Britain. In Europe, Indian mica is a strong competitor.

MINERAL PIGMENTS. Ochre is produced in small quantities in Halton Co. Other important deposits occur in Algoma District and Norfolk and Leeds Counties.

NATURAL GAS. In Haldimand Co., gas is piped from a large number of wells to Hamilton, Dundas, Brantford, Galt, Paris, and a number of other places. Welland County continues to produce much gas, supplying Welland, Hamilton, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and other towns and villages. In Kent County, gas is supplied to Leamington, Chatham and other places, from the Tilbury and Romney fields. The exportation of natural gas is prohibited. In 1917 the production was 20,025,699 M. cub. ft., worth \$3,220,123.

***NICKEL.** Seventy per cent. of the world's output comes from the Sudbury district. Here ore is mined and treated by the Canadian Copper Co. and the Mond Nickel Co. It is first roasted in open air heaps to expel sulphur, then smelted into matte of nickel and copper, which is shipped, for final separation of the metals, by the Canadian Copper Co. to Constable Hook, N.J., and by the Mond Nickel Co. to Clydach, Wales. The Alexo Mine is being worked in Dundonald Township, on the T. & N.O. Ry. The ore is a pyrrhotite similar to that of the Sudbury region and is being treated by the Mond Nickel Company at Victoria Mines. Returns of ore smelted in 1916 show: Ore, nickel contents, 41,299 tons; value, \$20,649,279. Copper contents, 22,430 tons; value, \$8,299,051.

***NOTE.**—Smelters are being constructed by the British America Nickel Co. at Murray Mine near Sudbury, and by the International Nickel Co. at Port Colborne.

PETROLEUM. The oil fields of Petrolia, Oil Springs and Tilbury East, continue to produce at a stationary rate. New fields have been opened in Mosa Township,