(Mines Branch publication No. 854 "Digest of Mining Laws in Canada" issued in 1957, contains all of the information on mining laws in Canada that most prospectors require. The report may be obtained from the Director, Mines Branch, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, Ottawa, Canada at a cost of $1.00 a copy).

Licensing

A miner's licence for the Northwest Territories costs $5.00 and is available to anyone 18 years of age or more, regardless of nationality. The charge for recording claims there is $5.00 each for the first nine claims and $10.00 each for additional claims up to ninety. No miner's licence is required for Yukon, but the charge for recording all claims there is $10.00 each.

The Atomic Energy Control Act, 1946, established the Atomic Energy Control Board to deal with the practical aspects of atomic energy. Regulations and orders of the Board have the status of laws, and penalties may be imposed upon anyone convicted of failure to observe the requirements. The Geological Survey of Canada is the official agent of the Board in matters dealing with prospecting. A summary of the regulations, and other information on prospecting for uranium, are contained in the pamphlet "Brief Information on Prospecting for Uranium in Canada" which, together with a list of other publications on uranium, may be obtained free of charge by writing to the Director, Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa, Canada. These pamphlets are revised when significant changes occur.

Radioactive Minerals

Only after a deposit of radioactive minerals has been found is some degree of supervision exercised by the Federal Government. This supervision is designed to cause as little interference as possible to those wishing to develop deposits of radioactive minerals and at the same time to enable the Government to obtain information on the uranium resources of the country and to control the disposal of important quantities of uranium or uranium minerals produced. The supervision is effected through: the Atomic Energy Control Act, 1946; the regulations of the Atomic Energy Control Board; and orders issued by the Atomic Energy Control Board.

Uranium

A few years ago prospecting for uranium in Canada was very active, but it has largely subsided because of the great amount of uranium already found in this country. Uranium produced in Canada may be sold only to the agency authorized by the Federal Government. All purchases to date have been made under special contracts or agreements, and the negotiation of additional agreements of this kind was terminated in 1959. Therefore the tendency of prospectors and companies is to await clarification of the future demand for uranium.

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Most of the numerous uranium discoveries that merited attention were found by well qualified prospectors. The use of radioactivity-detecting counters gives an unskilled prospector for uranium some advantage compared with prospecting for other metals. However, many important occurrences can be found with a counter only if considerable knowledge of where to search and how to judge occurrences is almost essential.