

and graphite, of which there are large deposits on the Rideau canal and in Renfrew county and elsewhere.

In building materials, Ontario is unusually rich. Brick clay is found distributed throughout the whole of the southern part of the Province, and in some parts in the north. Limestone is equally abundant; and various kinds of granite, sandstone, limestone, etc., can be quarried in numerous localities. Materials for the production of Portland Cement also abound. Marl is found in many parts of older Ontario, and there are deposits of limestone which can be used for the same purpose. The output of Portland Cement has increased year by year until the production of 1907 was about 1,900,000 barrels.

Ontario has hitherto been regarded by many as a Province well adapted for agriculture; its forests have been spoken of as inexhaustible; and its fisheries in the great lakes have been productive and valuable. But Ontario has now taken the first rank among the confederated Provinces in the mining industry, and to all appearances possesses resources that will enable her to maintain and improve her present position.

Nine years ago these mineral products that are classified as metallic constituted only 45 per cent. of Ontario's whole production; to-day they amount to more than 60 per cent. of the total mineral production. During the same period the output of both metallic and non-metallic products has increased steadily and largely. In six years the official returns show an increase of 84 per cent.

While the silver output of Cobalt has been a factor in this growth, it is by no means responsible for all of it. Such basic industries as iron and copper smelting, the manufacture of brick and cement, have expanded with even greater rapidity than is indicated by the advance of the mineral industries generally.

This fact accentuates the stability of Ontario's position as a mineral producer. Another striking evidence of the variety of the Province's resources is the consideration that since 1895 there have been added to the list of outputs, ten metallic and eight non-metallic substances.

The land area of Ontario is, roughly, about 220,000 square miles, or approximately twice as large as Great Britain. The southern and eastern portions are more thickly populated than are the northern and western. The former sections, underlain by sedimentary fossiliferous rocks of Palaeozoic age, are fertile and extensively cultivated. They occupy hardly one-fifth of the province. From this settled region came the greater part of the structural material, the petroleum, natural gas, and salt.

The northern and western portions of Ontario, and in this category falls more than four-fifths of the province, are largely made up of gneissic and granitic Laurentian rocks, throughout which are areas of schists, diorites, etc., of the Huronian system, constituting the chief metallic mineral bearing districts. Here are found the gold, silver, nickel, copper, cobalt, iron and other metallic ores.

Even far north towards James Bay, large tracts of the north country are well adapted to agriculture. Timber and pulp-wood exist over enormous areas and the whole country is intersected by large rivers and dotted with