

## PROVINCIAL PRODUCTION OF BUILDING MATERIALS.

In Minister of Mines Report for 1918, the Provincial Mineralogist Estimates Decrease of \$263,000 for Year on Account of Small Building Demand  
—Production of Firebrick and Cement Increasing.

The production of building materials in 1918 was less than in the preceding year, being \$940,891 as compared with \$1,204,546. The statistical returns are not yet as complete as could be desired, due to the reluctance of a few producers to give returns, but it is believed the figure given above approximates very closely to the actual output. Since 1912, when a production, amounting to \$3,435,722 was recorded, the output of building materials has steadily declined, due to the cessation of the building trade, brought about by the continued financial depression, and the war. It is probable that the figures have now reached a minimum, and that an output amounting from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 represents the steady yearly demand for these materials for use in repairs, renewals, and various small demands, without any new construction work. It may be expected therefore, that the production will remain at about this figure until a period of active construction work again commences in the Province. The diminution of production has been general in all kinds of material.

The outputs of sand and gravel, of brick, pottery, and cement are all slightly less than in 1917, but the decrease is not serious. The output of fire and face bricks shows an increase, due to a slightly larger production by the Clayburn Company. Approximately 80 per cent. of the total production of building materials comes from the Coast District, and the larger part of this finds its markets in the Coast cities.

In Table V., where the production of building materials is given in detail by districts, the column previously headed "Clay, Gypsum, etc." was changed in 1916 to "Miscellaneous Minerals," this column being used for listing the production of hydromagnesite from Atlin, molybdenite from Skeena, Lillooet, Nelson, arsenic from Osoyoos, and antimony ore from Slocan. The column previously headed "Crushed Rock" is now "Crushed Rock and Flux"; in it is recorded, in addition to the crushed rock, the value of limestone and quartz which are quarried for use at the smelters as flux.

Excellent building stone of various sorts is found in abundance in almost every part of the Province; the fact of its widespread distribution has, however, been somewhat against the establishment of large quarrying industries, as a sufficient local supply could always be obtained, and, except within reach of the larger cities, few regularly equipped quarries have been opened.

On the Coast, chiefly between Vancouver Island and the Mainland, there are several well-equipped quarries taking out granite, sandstone, and andesite, all of excellent quality. These quarries supply the stone building material of the Coast cities, and have also exported to the United States.

A detailed description of the more important quarries was given in the Report of this Bureau for 1904.

The production of red brick during the past year was about 3,600 M.; the prices varies from \$10 to \$12 a thousand, according to quality and demand. This small output shows very clearly that but little construction work has been carried on. It is probable, however, that a considerable quantity of brick is still imported into the Province.

The only company producing firebrick in the Province is the Clayburn Company, Limited, with a plant at Clayburn. The fireclay is found here as a bed, occurring in bedded rocks of Eocene age. Shales, sandstones, and conglomerates, all but little consolidated, make up this sedimentary series. The shales are quarried or mined for brick-making

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## Annual Report of Lake of Woods Milling Company Limited

reflects a healthy tone in Canada's leading industry.

MONTREAL, Oct. 18.—After four years of military service overseas, Brig.-Gen. F. S. Meighen, President of Lake of the Woods Milling Co., Ltd., occupied the chair at the annual meeting held at Montreal, October 1st.

The Report to the Shareholders showed a revenue from the year's exercise of \$756,616.40, arrived from sources as follows:—

Milling profits .....	\$547,152.79
Profits from sources other than milling proper, including dividend from Sunset Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (the subsidiary Company).....	209,463.61
This amount (\$756,616.40) has been apportioned as follows:—	
Interest on Company's Bonds .....	54,000.00
Dividend of 7% on \$1,500,000.00 Preferred Shares .....	105,000.00
Dividend 10% on \$2,100,000.00 Common Stock .....	210,000.00
Bonus Dividend on Common Stock .....	42,000.00
Addition Dividend 2% on Common Stock (from Sunset Manufacturing Co., Ltd.) .....	42,000.00
Written off Property and Goodwill Accounts....	100,000.00
	<u>\$553,000.00</u>

This leaves a balance of \$203,616.40 which is carried to Surplus Account. The Directors also set aside a further sum of \$200,000.00 to be applied to Bond Redemption Account. After making this provision and adding the surplus profit brought forward for the year, the Surplus now stands at \$982,414.30 as against \$978,797.90 the previous year.