

NON-METALLIC MINERALS USED IN THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

INTRODUCTORY.

The rapid industrial growth which Canada has been undergoing in recent years has greatly increased the demand for the non-metallic minerals and is constantly affording new uses to which they may be applied. In many of the manufacturing industries, minerals, in a more or less crude state, are used as raw material or, indirectly, as a means of producing the products of the factory.

A reference to the tables in this report will show that an unduly large proportion of the mineral used in these industries is imported. In some cases the importation is necessary or advisable, since some minerals and particular grades of others are not obtainable at present in Canada, or the material may be obtained from abroad for less than the cost of production and delivery of the Canadian. In other cases, however, it is due to the fact that the domestic products are not always prepared in the form most suitable for the purposes for which they are required. Frequently the buying and selling methods in use are at fault. For example, the Canadian producer, through lack of capital, is often at a great disadvantage, being unable to advertise extensively and thus attract attention to his product and secure a trial of it, even though his price be lower and his product as good, or better than the imported article. During the gathering of data for this report, it was found, in many cases, that the consumers of certain minerals were not aware that these were produced in the country, often quite close at hand. In such instances a list of the producers and their addresses was furnished.

There are a number of trade journals which reach the manufacturers, and it would seem that even small advertisements judiciously placed by the Canadian producers would aid