

THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM OF MINERALOGY

The material contained in the Museum of Mineralogy represents the collections assembled during the last twenty years. Prior to 1912 the collections were cared for by the University of Toronto and were housed in the Museum gallery in the Mining building on College Street. The nucleus about which the present very extensive collections grew was purchased from Mr. W. F. Ferrier of Ottawa, in 1894. Since then the collections have been extended by purchase, by collections made by the members of the University and Museum staffs, by exchange with other institutions and very largely by donations from mining men, particularly from graduates of the University engaged in mining in Canada and the United States.

The collections may be conveniently referred to under the following subdivisions:

I. SYSTEMATIC COLLECTION OF MINERALS. In the table cases (F1 to F64) are found specimens of all the different kinds of minerals contained in the Museum. This is one of the most complete systematic collections on the continent, and in it are found specimens of all but the very rarest types. The method of classification is that adopted by Dana who arranges minerals in eight groups as follows: (1) Native elements, (2) Sulphides, (3) Sulpho-Salts, (4) Haloids, (5) Oxides, (6) Oxygen-Salts, (7) Salts of Organic Acids and (8) Hydrocarbons. The minerals are arranged in this order beginning with Native elements in case F1 and ending with hydrocarbons in case F64. The minerals bear the same serial numbers which were assigned to them by Dana in his System of Mineralogy—thus graphite is No. 2, quartz No. 210, and gypsum No. 746.

II. SYSTEMATIC COLLECTION OF ROCKS. The rocks are contained in the table cases F65 to F84 inclusive. They are