

NON-METALS

During 1967, the shipments of non-metallic minerals were valued at \$414 million. Asbestos tonnage declined as the market demand for short fibres lessened. The total value of asbestos remained at the \$163-million level. Both tonnage and value of gypsum declined in 1967. Saskatchewan potash, which exceeded 2.5 million tons was valued at \$77 million. The world demand for sulphur forced the price upward. The value of sulphur from sour gas in the Western provinces amounted to \$70 million. Dry salt and salt in brine was worth \$28 million. A new plant in Saskatchewan contributed to \$6.6-million worth of natural sodium sulphate.

Mineral or fossil fuels rose by 11 per cent to reach \$1,277 million. Coal production continued at about the same level as in the previous years. The utilized natural gas was nearly 1.5 trillion cubic feet. Over \$108-million worth of natural gas by-products were produced. These included propane and butane. Crude petroleum volume was estimated at 352 million barrels.

Structural materials were valued at \$469 million in 1967, compared to \$474 million the preceding year. Cement shipments declined markedly in Quebec and Ontario, where the construction programmes were reduced. The labour strike in the Toronto area decreased the consumption of cement. Lime output was less than in 1966. Products made from domestic clay,

which included brick, tile, flue linings, sewer pipe and pottery were valued at \$43.5 million. Stone, sand and gravel used for roads, concrete aggregate etc., were worth \$262 million.

POPULATION 1967

Canada's population in 1967 was estimated at 20,405,000, of which the largest number (7,149,000) was concentrated in Ontario and the smallest in the Yukon (15,000). The total number of males was 10,247,800, of whom the largest number were found in Ontario and the smallest in the Yukon, (3,573,200 and 8,200 respectively). Females numbered 10,157,200, 3,575,800 being reported in Ontario and 6,800 in the Yukon. The 5-to-9 age group numbered 2,320,300, the highest of any age group. The smallest group was the over-90 category (27,300). The largest number of both sexes was in the 5-to-9 group, which contained 1,184,000 males and 1,136,000 females. The lowest number of both sexes was in the over-90 group but the number of males compared to females was lower in this group rather than higher, as in the 5-to-9 group (10,400 males, 16,900 females). The reversal in the relative sizes of the male and female populations occurred in the 60-to-64 age group which contained 339,000 males compared to 343,300 females.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT BILL

More than 150 delegates who attended a recent seminar on community improvement in Ottawa, urged to ask the Federal Government to continue its current efforts and to plan improvement programmes in the next few years. The seminar, called "Action 67", was held at the Ottawa Conference Centre and was attended by representatives from various levels of government, business, industry, and professional associations. The seminar was concerned with improving the quality of communities in Canada.

Community improvement, one of the Government's main programmes, has involved many projects in major redevelopment of urban areas. In 1967, 1,000 cities were and will be participating in the project. The seminar was addressed by Urban Development and Environment Minister, and included three-dimensional displays and an exhibit from the Urban Development Commission. Films, colour slides, tapes and black and white photographs were displayed to focus attention on the state of Canadian cities and how they could be made more attractive.