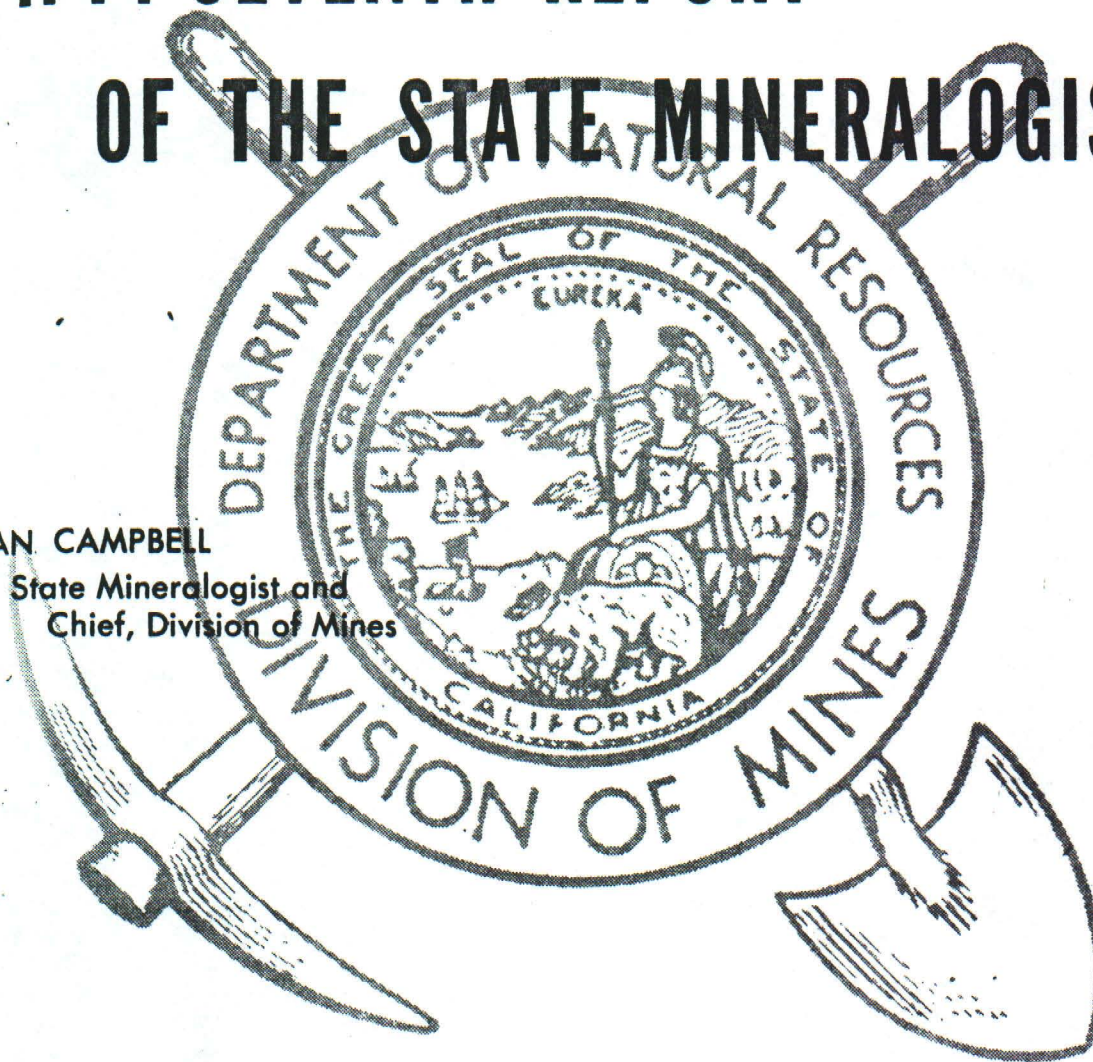


FIFTY-SEVENTH REPORT OF THE STATE MINERALOGIST

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CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF MINES
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tan, greenstone, and chert.

The quantity and value of total stone sold or used by producers is presented in the following table by uses.

Dimension granite showed an increase in value of production from \$455,029 in 1958 to \$634,286 in 1959.

Sulfur

Nearly all the sulfur ore mined in California during 1959 came from the open pit Leviathan mine in Alpine County. The sulfur content (about 30 percent) was converted into sulfuric acid at Weed Heights, Nevada, and used to leach a low-grade copper carbonate ore from a deposit near Yerington, Nevada.

A small production of sulfur ore was made in 1959 from the Crater claims east of Big Pine, Inyo County; from the Sulphur Bank mercury mine and the S-Bar-S deposit in Lake County; and from the Banana claim near Taft, Kern County. All this material was used as a soil additive.

By-product sulfur was produced from petroleum refineries in Contra Costa, Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo Counties; by-product hydrogen sulfide from petroleum refineries in Contra Costa and Los Angeles Counties; and liquid sulfur dioxide and sulfuric acid from a lead smelter in Contra Costa County.

Talc, Soapstone and Pyrophyllite

The talc, soapstone and pyrophyllite produced in California during 1959 totaled 148,266 short tons valued at \$1,500,260, compared to 129,638 short tons valued at \$1,339,069 in 1958. Virtually all this material was ground by producers or shipped to grinding plants.

All of the 1959 talc production was mined from 14 properties in Inyo County, 13 properties in San Bernardino County, except for a few tons of crude talc in Shasta County. Pyrophyllite was mined at three deposits in San Diego County and two properties in Mono County and one in Inyo County. Two properties in El Dorado County, and one property in Los Angeles County yielded the entire state output of soapstone.

Crude talc was produced in 14 properties in Inyo County and one in San Bernardino County; crude soapstone was produced from El Dorado and Los Angeles Counties; crude pyrophyllite was won from Mono, San Diego, Inyo, and San Bernardino Counties.

Prepared products sold or used during 1959 consisted of 129,097 short tons of ground talc and soapstone valued at \$3,856,422 and 13,281 short tons of ground pyrophyllite valued at \$283,025. The ground material prepared in 1958 totaled 117,176 short tons valued at \$3,237,820.

Consumption of the 1959 output of ground talc and soapstone by industry was as follows: ceramics, 67,863 short tons; paint, 26,362 short tons; insecticides, 13,198 short tons; rubber, 4,482 short tons; toilet preparations, 2,635 short tons. Small quantities were used also in asphalt fillers, paper, rice polishing, textiles, refractories, and stucco.

Ground pyrophyllite was used in insecticides (10,540 short tons), paints and batteries.