

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, 1912[†]

Statistics subject to revision.

The total value of the mineral production in Canada in 1912 was \$133,127,489 according to the preliminary statistics published herewith, which are based upon direct returns from mine and smelter operators, but subject to final revision. Compared with the previous year this production shows an increase of \$29,906,495, or nearly 29 per cent. The mineral output in 1911, however, was somewhat restricted owing to long extended labour disputes and the largest previous production was in 1910 compared with which that of 1912 shows an increase of \$26,243,866, or over 24 per cent. The per capita production in 1910 was \$14.93, and this has increased in 1912 to over \$18. This record is a gratifying indication or confirmation of the fact that the Canadian mineral industry in 1912 has had by far the most successful year in its history.

This progress is all the more satisfactory because it is evidently due to a widespread and substantial development of the country's mineral resources. The only new camp of importance to contribute largely to the year's output was Porcupine, the gold production of which was about one and three-quarter million dollars. A slight scarcity of labour was reported, particularly in connection with the asbestos and clay working industries. There were comparatively few clay labour disputes to interfere with output, the principal difficulties being a strike of coal miners on Vancouver Island, beginning in September, and a labour dispute

at Porcupine toward the latter part of the year. The total coal and gold production were but slightly affected thereby.

A substantial increase in price in most of the metals, which took place early in the year and continued throughout, had a very important bearing on the year's operations and contributed largely to the increased value of the output.

A feature of particular interest during the year has been the continued and extended development of ore reserves. The satisfactory results from these operations particularly in the case of the nickel-copper ores of the Sudbury district, the Porcupine gold ores of Ontario and a number of the copper and lead deposits of British Columbia, point to much greater annual outputs in the future.

Extension of ore smelting and refining facilities and in a number of cases special improvements in methods of practice have also been important factors in the year's operations.

The production of the more important metals and minerals is shown in the following tabulated statement in which the figures are given for the two years, 1911 and 1912, in comparative form, and the increase or decrease in value shown. Tabulated statements in greater detail, will be found on subsequent pages of this pamphlet:

		1911.		1912.		Increase (+) or decrease (-) in value.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
Copper, lbs.	55,648,011	\$6,886,998	\$77,775,600	\$12,709,311	+	\$5,822,313
Gold, ozs.	473,159	9,781,077	607,609	12,559,443	+	2,778,366
Pig iron, *tons	917,535	12,307,125	1,014,587	14,550,999	+	2,243,874
Lead, lbs.	23,784,969	827,717	35,763,476	1,597,554	+	769,837
Nickel, lbs.	34,098,744	10,229,623	44,841,542	13,452,463	+	3,222,840
Silver, ozs.	32,559,044	17,355,272	31,931,710	19,425,656	+	2,070,384
Other metallic products .....	.....	411,332	.....	982,676	+	571,344
Total .....	.....	57,799,144	.....	75,278,102	+	17,478,958
Less pig iron credited to imported ores...	875,349	11,693,721	978,232	14,100,113	+	2,406,392
Total metallic .....	.....	46,105,423	.....	61,177,989	+	15,072,566
Asbestos and asbestic, tons	127,414	2,943,108	131,260	2,979,384	+	36,276
Coal, tons	11,323,388	26,476,646	14,699,953	36,349,299	+	9,881,653
Gypsum, tons	518,383	993,394	576,498	1,320,883	+	327,489
Natural gas .....	.....	1,917,678	.....	2,311,126	+	393,448
Petroleum, brls.	291,092	357,073	243,336	345,050	-	12,023
Salt, tons	91,582	443,004	95,053	459,582	+	16,578
Cement, brls.	5,692,915	7,644,537	7,120,787	9,083,216	+	1,438,679
Clay products .....	.....	8,359,933	.....	9,343,321	+	983,388
Lime, bush.	7,533,525	1,517,599	7,992,234	1,717,771	+	200,172
Stone .....	.....	4,328,757	.....	4,675,851	+	200,172
Miscellaneous non-metallic .....	.....	2,142,842	.....	3,364,017	+	1,221,175
Total non-metallic .....	.....	57,115,571	.....	71,949,500	+	14,833,929
Grand total .....	.....	103,220,994	.....	133,127,489	+	29,906,495

[†]Presented by Mr. John McLeish at Ottawa Meeting.
*Short tons throughout.