

CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION

Although Canada's mineral wealth continues to show satisfactory increases, there is one respect in which we would desire to see a change made. This is in connection with the further treatment of ores in Canada. As it is at present, the great bulk of our ores are sent abroad to be treated. Our silver from Cobalt is largely refined in the United States or in Europe, our lead, copper, and other minerals are similarly treated. There are, however, a few exceptions, among which is the Coniagas Mine, who own their own smelter, and, instead of shipping out silver in its raw state, carry on the entire work of refining it at home, thus giving employment to a large number of Canadian workmen.

The preliminary report of mineral production in Canada for 1913 shows a value of \$144,031,000 as compared with \$135,048,000 for 1912. This shows an increase of nearly \$9,000,000 or 6.2-3%. Since 1886 there has been a rapid growth in the mineral production of the country. In that year, the total production was valued at \$10,221,000, or a per capita valuation of \$2.23. Ten years later, the output was valued at \$22,474,000 or a per capita value of \$4.38. The next decade shows an increase to \$79,286,000, or a per capita valuation of \$12.81. Last year's total was \$144,000,000, or a per capita of \$18.57. The most rapid increase took place since the discovery of the Cobalt Camp, and, subsequently, of gold at Porcupine. The following table shows the value of the more important minerals, as well as the production from 1886 to date:—

	1912	1913
Copper.....	\$ 12,718,548	\$ 11,753,440
Gold.....	12,648,794	16,216,131
Pig Iron.....	14,550,999	16,540,012
Lead.....	1,597,554	1,754,705
Nickel.....	13,452,463	14,903,032
Silver.....	19,440,165	18,984,012
Other Metallic pro'ts..	864,343	1,520,072
Total.....	\$ 75,272,866	\$ 81,671,404
Less pig iron credited to imported ores....	14,100,113	15,543,583
Total metallic....	\$ 61,172,753	\$ 66,127,821
Asbestos and asbestic..	3,137,279	3,849,925
Coal.....	36,019,044	36,250,311
Gypsum.....	1,324,620	1,477,589
Natural Gas.....	2,362,700	3,338,314
Petroleum.....	345,050	406,439
Salt.....	459,582	491,280
Cement.....	9,106,556	11,227,284
Clay products.....	10,575,869	9,673,067
Lime.....	1,844,849	1,605,812
Stone.....	4,726,171	5,499,204
Miscellaneous non-metallic..	3,973,823	4,384,001
Total non-metallic..	\$ 73,875,543	\$ 77,903,226
Grand Total.....	\$ 135,048,296	\$ 144,031,047

Of the production in 1913 a value of \$66,127,821, or 45.9 per cent. is credited to the metals and \$77,903,226, or 54.1 per cent. to the non-metallic products. The increase over the value for 1912 in metallic products was \$4,955,068, or 8.1 per cent., and in non-metallic products, \$4,027,683, or 5.45 per cent.

	Production	Per capita
1886.....	\$ 10,221,255	\$2.23
1887.....	10,321,331	2.23
1888.....	12,518,894	2.67
1889.....	14,013,113	2.96
1890.....	16,763,353	3.50
1891.....	18,976,616	3.92
1892.....	16,623,415	3.39
1893.....	20,035,082	4.04
1894.....	19,931,158	3.98
1895.....	20,505,917	4.05
1896.....	22,474,256	4.38
1897.....	28,485,023	5.40
1898.....	38,412,431	7.32
1899.....	49,234,005	9.27
1900.....	64,420,877	12.04
1901.....	65,797,911	12.16
1902.....	63,231,836	11.36
1903.....	61,740,513	10.83
1904.....	60,082,771	10.27
1905.....	60,078,999	11.49
1906.....	79,286,697	12.81
1907.....	86,865,202	13.75
1908.....	85,557,101	13.16
1909.....	91,831,441	13.70
1910.....	106,823,623	14.93
1911.....	103,220,994	14.42
1912.....	135,048,296	18.27
1913.....	144,031,047	18.57

An examination of the production by Provinces shows that Ontario maintains the leading place with an output value of \$58,697,000, British Columbia second, Nova Scotia third, while Quebec takes fifth place. The production by Provinces follows:—

	1912	1913
Nova Scotia.....	\$ 18,922,236	\$ 19,305,545
New Brunswick.....	771,004	1,049,932
Quebec.....	11,656,998	13,303,649
Ontario.....	51,985,876	58,697,602
Manitoba.....	2,463,074	2,211,159
Saskatchewan.....	1,165,642	899,233
Alberta.....	12,073,589	13,844,622
British Columbia.....	30,076,635	28,529,081
Yukon.....	5,933,242	6,190,224
Dominion.....	\$ 135,048,296	\$ 144,031,047

It is only through increased production that Canada can maintain her credit, and it is to be hoped that every possible encouragement will be given to the mining industry, as well as the other great basic industries of the country. The production of our mines, valued at \$144,000,000, makes the industry one of the most important in the country. This production compares with a crop valuation of \$565,000,000 in 1912, with lumber production valued at \$182,-