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THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

With which is incorporated

The Shareholder

A Weekly Journal devoted to Finance, Banking, Insurance, Commerce, Industry and Transportation.

J. C. ROSS, M.A., Editor.

Published by The Industrial and Educational Press, Limited

35-45 St. Alexander Street, Montreal.

Phone Main 2662

Toronto Office, 44-46 Lombard Street.

Phone Main 6764.

Subscription Price, \$2.00 per Year.

Single Copies 5 cents.

Vol LXXVI.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1913

No. 42

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ONTARIO'S MINERAL RECORDS.

Last year, Ontario produced minerals to the value of over \$51,000,000, an increase of some \$9,000,000 over the figures for the previous year. The half-yearly report of the Department of Mines just issued, indicates that 1913 will surpass the high record made in 1912. The report shows that, while there has been a slight decrease in the output of silver from the Cobalt district, there has been a marked increase in the production of gold and also a healthy increase in the value of the Nickel in the Sudbury district. Copper and iron also show substantial increase over the corresponding period in 1912.

That the mining industry is obtaining a large place in the economic and industrial life of the province is shown from the fact that \$51,000,000 worth of minerals is being produced each year. Turning to the results made by Cobalt, it is found that this small area has produced over \$100,000,000 worth of silver and has paid out in dividends almost \$50,000,000. Some of the old companies, instead of showing signs of decay, are increasing their dividends and making new records in

regard to production. A case in point is the Coniagas, who have just declared an additional bonus of 5%, making the disbursements for the year 1913 equal to 41% as compared with 36% in 1912, the November dividend payment alone amounting to \$560,000. The Hollinger in Porcupine is now distributing in the neighborhood of 40% per annum, and the indications are that this disbursement will be continued and that other gold mines in the district will shortly become dividend payers.

The Nickel industry in Ontario is capitalized at practically \$100,000,000. The value of the nickel mined amounts to four and three quarters millions dollars and that of copper to over one and a half million. Already one company has paid out over thirteen million dollars in dividends. These figures indicate something of the growth of an industry which, a very few years ago, was regarded as foreign to the so-called purely agricultural Province of Ontario. The indications are that the mineral output of the province will continue to show increases as new areas are prospected and better methods of treating ores are discovered and put into operation.