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CANADA'S SHARE OF WORLD'S GOLD.

Few world's production statistics are complete without reference to Canada. In recent compilations made by statistical departments in all countries; the Dominion has some figures. Silver, gold, timber, manufactures, coal, water power, fisheries, wheat, grain, shipping, finance—to all these and more this country contributes to the world's statistics. A series of tables shows the gold production since the discovery of America, to aggregate in round figures thirteen billion dollars. It is estimated that at present eleven billion dollars are now in existence. The value of gold coin in all the countries of the world now totals seven billion dollars. During the last decade, the stock of gold has increased about fifty per cent., while in the last twenty-five years it has doubled. At the same time the stock of gold money is now about seventy-five per cent. more than ten years ago.

In the form of coin about two-thirds of the stock exists. The amount in circulation and in banks is about seven billion dollars. Of this gold money in the various countries, about 3 billions is reported as in circulation, and about 4 billions as in banks and public treasuries. Considering its distribution by countries, the United States has a greater supply of gold money than any other country, the figures being, according to this table: United States, 1,613 millions; Germany, 1,044 millions; France, 926 millions; Russia, 917 millions; United Kingdom, 565 millions; Austria-Hungary, 303 millions; Italy, 258 millions; Australia, 159 millions; Egypt, 140 millions; Argentina, 140 millions; Turkey, 132 millions; India, 113 millions; Japan, 96 millions; Canada, 66 millions, and Brazil, 51 millions.

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At least one-fourth of the thirteen billions of gold produced in the world has come from mines in the United States. Canada, it will be seen, contributed a fair proportion to the world's figures. The total gold production in the Dominion in fifty years of mining, from 1858 to the end of 1907, was about two hundred and fifty-eight million dollars. Of that, more than \$114,500,000 was obtained in British Columbia, \$124,000,000 from the Yukon district, about \$16,500,000 from Nova Scotia, and \$3,000,000 from Ontario and Quebec. Up to date the largest annual output was obtained in 1900 with a production of \$27,908,153. As is known, since that date there has been a continued decline in the output from the Yukon placers, where the actual gold production of 1907 was only about \$8,264,765. The Yukon production has reached such a low point that in consideration of the great amount of development undertaken in that district during recent years it may be that in the next few years the output will be increased considerably.

In considering gold production, it is interesting to note its relation to coinage. Of the world's stock of money, 7 billion dollars is gold, 3½ billions silver, and 4½ billions uncovered paper. Ten years ago the figures were: Gold, 4½ billions; silver, 4 billions; paper, 2½ billions; the amount of gold money having thus increased over 50 per cent., paper about 80 per cent., while silver declined about 10 per cent.

As to what use is being made of that portion of the world's gold not utilized as currency or as a basis for currency, a statement from a late report of the Director of the United States Mint estimates the world's consumption of gold in the arts and industries in 1907 at 135 million dollars.

The coining value of silver produced from the mines of the world since 1492 is practically equal to that of