

ONTARIO'S METALLIFEROUS PRODUCTION

RETURNS received by the Ontario Bureau of mines from the smelters, refining works and metalliferous mines of the province for the six months ended June 30th, 1917, are summarized in the table below which gives comparative figures for the corresponding period in 1916.

Summary of Metalliferous Production, Six Months, 1917.

Product.	— Quantity —		— Value —	
	1916.	1917.	1916.	1917.
Gold ounces	235,060	228,673	\$ 4,822,740	\$ 4,586,941
Silver ounces	10,267,743	10,073,787	6,188,269	7,584,439
Cobalt (metallic) lbs.	121,817	162,250	103,677	237,004
Nickel (metallic) lbs.	13,933	45,864	5,899	19,073
		5,495		1,648
Nickel oxide lbs.		153,498		175,308
Cobalt oxide lbs.	410,408		204,638	
Other cobalt and nickel compounds lbs.		122,076		15,879
Molybdenite lbs.	12,631	36,777	13,075	47,942
Lead lbs.	.....	912,934	.....	114,953
Copper ore tons	922	1,543	14,368	45,688
Nickel in matte tons	20,651	20,230	10,325,766	10,115,000
Copper in matte tons	11,426	10,381	4,207,620	4,152,400
Iron ore (exported) tons	.....	24,332	.....	85,135
Pig iron tons	.....	40,968	.....	715,912
			\$25,886,052	\$27,897,322

It will be noted that above figures are for pig iron produced from Ontario ore only. Export figures for 1916 are not available for iron ore. Nickel and copper in matte have been valued at 25 and 20 cents per pound, respectively, whereas copper was valued at 18½ cents per pound in 1916.

Gold.

It was anticipated that the production for the half-year would show a decline as compared with the same period in 1916, owing to labor troubles and labor shortage at the Porcupine camp. Nearly all the mines, including the Hollinger and Dome, have been developing their ore bodies and increasing milling capacity in preparation for the time after the war when labor will be more plentiful and operating costs decreased. In the meantime, production and dividends have been curtailed. New producers are Gold Reef and Tommy Burns at Porcupine, Teck-Hughes at Kirkland Lake, and Miller-Independence at Boston Creek. A single stamp is dropping at the Rognon on Wabigoon Lake, District of Kenora. Mines, in order, producing 5,000 ounces or more gold were Hollinger, McIntyre, Dome, Porcupine Crown, Tough-Oakes, Schumacher and Porcupine V.N.T.

Silver

High prices for silver, which averaged 75.44 cents for the half-year as compared with 62.53 cents for the same period in 1916, have stimulated production from the Cobalt camp. The lowest New York price was 71.75 cents on March 27th and highest 78.64 on February 15th. This advance in value has offset increased mining costs. If the Miller-Lake O'Brien continues shipping at the same rate throughout the year, Gowganda will show a record production for 1917. The increase is attributed to the high-grade vein discovered in the summer of 1916. The

Hargrave mine is now shipping regularly. A new shipper this year is the National, formerly the King Edward mine. The Mining Corporation of Canada (Cobalt Lake and Townsite City mines) shipped over 2,000,000 ounces in the half-year. Shippers of 500,000 ounces or more were as follows: Nipissing, Kerr Lake, O'Brien, Beaver and Coniagas mines. Silver recovered from gold ores totalled 38,492 ounces and from copper ores 646 ounces.

Nickel-Copper

The production of nickel-copper matte at Copper Cliff and Coniston shows a small decrease as compared with the same period in 1916, due to shortage of labor. Assays of samples of nickel-copper matte for their precious metal contents were made for the Royal Ontario Nickel Commission by Ledoux & Company, of New York. Platinum and palladium were found in quantities varying from 0.32 ounces to 1.97 ounces per ton of matte. These metals are quoted at \$100 per ounce. The British America Nickel Corporation has announced that their new electrolytic refinery will be located at Murray Mine, and will have an initial capacity of 5,000 tons of nickel per annum. The Port Colborne refinery of the International Nickel Company will produce 7,500 tons of nickel, and provision is made for quadrupling the capacity.

Copper

Shipments for the half-year came from three sources, the Tip Top mine near Kashbowie, the Hudson Copper Company at Havilah, and the Kenyon Copper Company, of Massey. The last mentioned operates the Massey mine, where a 100-ton Callow flotation mill is producing 20 per cent. concentrates. Shipments from Bruce Mines are included under nickel-copper. The Port Arthur Copper Company at Mine Centre is erecting a concentrator and will be shipping soon.

Iron Ore and Pig Iron

Shipments of ore were from the Helen and Magpie mines of the Algoma Steel Corporation, and a small shipment from Moose Mountain. Helen ore is shipped to the Magpie mine for treatment. In all, 61,796 tons worth \$231,937 were marketed, of which 24,322 tons were exported to the United States. Pig iron produced at Sault