

CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION

Most Important Production in Point of Value Was Coal—Silver Came Second

The total value of the mineral production in Canada in 1911, according to the revised statistics of the Department of Mines, Ottawa, was \$103,220,994, which although less than the production of 1910 by \$3,602,629 was nevertheless much greater than the output of any other previous year. The total value of production in 1910 was \$106,823,623, the decrease in 1911 being equivalent to a little over 3 per cent. The largest production per capita was made in 1910 when the output averaged \$14.93 per head of population; the year 1911 was next with an average output per capita of \$14.42.

The year 1886 was the first year for which complete statistics of mineral production for the whole of Canada were collected by the Department of Mines, and the production that year was reported as \$10,221,255, or about \$2.23 per capita. In ten years the production had increased over 100 per cent., to \$22,474,256, or \$4.38 per capita, in 1896. At this time, the Yukon began to contribute largely to the gold production, and, during the next five years, an increase of nearly 200 per cent. is shown, the total reaching a value of \$65,797,911, or \$12.16 per capita in 1901. The next three years witnessed a slight decline; but from 1904 the production again rapidly increased to its present high record due to the general development of a wide variety of mineral products.

Production of Metalliferous Products.

The production of metalliferous products in 1911 was valued at \$46,105,423, being 44.67 per cent. of the total mineral output and a decrease in value from the previous year of \$3,333,450, or about 6 3/4 per cent. The value of the production of non-metalliferous products (excluding structural material and clays) in 1911 was \$34,405,960, being 33.33 per cent. of the total mineral output and a decrease of \$3,351,198, or 8.8 per cent. from the value of the production in 1910. The value of the production of clay, lime and stone, and other structural materials in 1911 was \$22,079,611, or 22 per cent. of the total production; and an increase of \$3,082,019, or 13.5 per cent., over the 1910 output.

The most important product in point of value was coal which contributed over 25 1/2 per cent. of the total production;

silver, next in importance, contributed over 16 3/4 per cent., nickel nearly 10 per cent.; gold almost 9 1/2 per cent.; clay products 8 per cent.; cement 7 2/5 per cent.; copper 6 2/3 per cent.

Strike Had Effect.

The decrease in production in 1911, while apparently quite general among the metals, is to be ascribed in large part to the long continued strike of coal mines in Alberta and the Crow's Nest district of British Columbia. The scarcity of coal and coke in these provinces seriously interfered with the smelting industry of British Columbia and undoubtedly resulted in a smaller production of copper, silver, and gold than would otherwise have been made. In the case of iron, while a decrease is shown in the quantity of pig-iron attributable to Canadian ore, the total production of pig-iron from domestic and imported ores showed a large increase over the 1910 output.

The prices of metals upon which the value of the production directly depends did not vary greatly during the year, in fact the averages have been fairly stationary during the past three years. The prices of copper, lead, and silver on the New York market were fractionally lower in 1911. Spelter was fractionally higher and nickel showed no change. On the London market and in Montreal which follows London, lead showed an increased average price.

	1909.	1910.	1911.
	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.
Copper, New York	12.982	12.738	12.376
Lead, " "	4.273	4.446	4.420
London	2.839	2.807	3.035
Montreal*	3.268	3.246	3.480
Nickel, New York	40.000	40.000	40.000
Silver, " "	51.503	53.486	53.304
Spelter, " "	5.503	5.520	5.758
Tin, " "	29.725	34.123	42.281

*Quotations furnished by Messrs. Thomas Robertson and Company, Montreal, Que.

Amongst the non-metallic products the most serious falling off was in coal, due as already intimated to labor difficulties; smaller decreases are shown in corundum, mica, and petroleum, while on the other hand substantial increases were made in the sales of asbestos, gypsum, natural gas, pyrites, and salt. The structural materials and clay products nearly all show an increased production.

HOW CANADA'S FIRE LOSS COMPARES

The *Monetary Times* monthly record of Canada's fire waste shows that since the beginning of the year, the Dominion's fire losses have aggregated \$11,256,017. Last month's loss was \$2,123,868.

The appended table compiled by the committee on sta-

tistics of the National Board of Fire Underwriters of the United States shows clearly the great differences existing between the fire loss per capita on this side of the Atlantic and the other.

Canada makes a particularly bad showing.

	Number of Cities Reporting Loss.			Population.			Per Capita Loss.		
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1910.	1911.	1912.
United States	297	298	300	29,996,723	31,210,084	32,326,633	2.39	2.62	2.55
England	11	12	12	2,335,847	9,898,317	7,164,849	.44	.53	.54
France	8	3	6	4,392,529	3,518,493	4,425,696	.92	.81	.84
Germany	13	8	9	5,616,822	2,306,354	2,659,575	.19	.21	.20
Ireland	2	2	2	657,680	694,272	699,802	.45	.58	.57
Scotland	..	2	2	..	484,190	485,091	..	.56	.49
Italy	..	6	3	..	1,373,995	282,082	..	.31	.90
Russia	..	2	2	..	3,483,291	3,485,583	..	1.17	.84
Austria	..	1	4	..	2,031,498	2,658,078	..	.08	.30
Canada	..	1	5	..	125,000	957,372	..	2.61	2.88
Belgium	..	..	1	..	..	166,445	..	..	.69
Norway	..	..	1	..	..	250,000	..	..	.69
Sweden	..	..	1	..	..	351,500	..	..	.13
Switzerland	..	..	1	..	..	140,000	..	..	.04
The Netherlands	..	..	2	..	..	417,693	..	..	.12
Argentina	..	..	1	..	..	1,428,042	..	..	3.58

Statistics show that the influx of Chinese into Canada is falling off appreciably. A recent steamer which brought 800 citizens of the celestial kingdom is an example. Of the total number 200 went by way of the United States, in bond, to Cuba, Mexico and Central America; 200 were Victoria Chinese returning from China, and 125 were Vancouver Chinese also home bound; 20 went to United States points and the balance were admitted to Canada on payment of the head tax. Actual figures show that already this year the number of admissions is less by 253 than that for the corresponding period last year.

Winnipeg has been chosen as the convention city for the eleventh annual gathering of the Dominion Association of Chartered Accountants. It will be held September 2, 3 and 4. At 1 o'clock on the first day of the convention a complimentary luncheon will be tendered to the visitors by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Manitoba. Among those who will speak at the convention are Judge Robson, public utilities commissioner of Manitoba; Mr. Vere Brown, western superintendent of the Canadian Bank of Commerce; Mr. O. J. Godfrey, of the Saskatchewan Institute of Accountants, and Mr. W. E. Hodges, of the British Columbia Institute.