

ONTARIO MINERAL PRODUCTION

The Ontario bureau of mines has issued statistics, which appear at the foot of this page, regarding the production of the metalliferous mines and works of Ontario for the nine months ending 30th September, 1917. For purposes of comparison, figures for the corresponding period in 1916 are also given.

Notwithstanding the falling off in the output of gold, silver and copper, the aggregate value for the nine months was some \$2,000,000 more than for the same period in 1916. Increased prices for silver, copper and nickel are largely responsible for this increase.

Of the total production, the Hollinger Mine yielded 161,702 ounces; McIntyre, 59,779 ounces; and Dome, 58,978. Gold being the standard of value, and having a fixed price, was the only metal which did not share in the general increase of prices. Indeed, the high price of labor and supplies have, for the time being, lowered the rate of expansion for this branch of the industry. The output for the first nine months of this year was some 20,000 ounces less than for the corresponding period in 1916.

Evidence accumulates that the gold resources of Northern Ontario are extensive. Developments at Porcupine have been satisfactory, and Kirkland Lake shows signs of being a good second. A satisfactory feature is that the newer gold camps are scattered over a wide area of territory.

The average price of silver was 79.758 cents—the low being 71.75 on March 27th, and the high 108.50 on September 25th. The following mines were the leading shippers: Mining Corporation of Canada, 3,831,211 ounces; Nipissing, 2,839,462 ounces; Kerr Lake, 1,708,921 ounces; Coniagas, 976,315 ounces; O'Brien, 925,000 ounces; McKinley-Darragh-Savage, 775,566 ounces; Miller Lake O'Brien, 757,132 ounces.

Both these metals have risen in price, and are valued in these statistics at 25 cents and 20 cents per pound respectively, for the metallic contents of the mattes produced. Nickel is quoted at 50 to 55 cents per pound, and the United States government has now fixed the price of copper at 23½ cents per pound. The mines of Sudbury are now, and have been for some time, working at maximum capacity. The nickel contents of the mattes for the nine months of 1917 were a little larger than for the same period in 1916, but the copper contents were about 1,000 tons lower. The International Nickel Company's new refinery at Port Colborne is well under way, and is expected to be turning out refined nickel before next spring.

In addition to exported ore, 138,808 tons were shipped to Ontario smelters. Of the total of 983,321 tons of ore smelted, only 93,536 tons, or 9.5 per cent., were Ontario ore. The total pig iron produced was 513,232 tons, worth \$9,841,438 as compared with 501,410 tons, worth \$6,686,965 in 1916 for the corresponding period. This shows an advance of nearly 50 per cent. in the value of pig iron.

	1916.	1917.
Gold	363,955	343,490
Silver	16,203,091	15,236,002
Cobalt (metallic)	172,055	295,866
Nickel (metallic)	17,435	166,921
Nickel oxide	54,152	10,831
Cobalt oxide	378,732	276,769
Other cobalt and nickel compounds	57,026	276,217
Molybdenite	15,845	65,827
Copper ore	1,715	2,658
Nickel in matte	31,046	31,064
Copper in matte	16,989	15,928
*Iron ore (exported) .....	.....	98,757
*Pig iron from domestic ore .....	.....	48,820
*Lead .....	.....	540

	Quantity.	Value.
	1916.	1917.
	363,955	\$ 7,513,734
	16,203,091	\$ 6,754,535
	172,055	12,001,875
	17,435	433,739
	54,152	67,499
	378,732	3,025
	57,026	323,162
	15,845	30,025
	1,715	83,550
	31,046	15,523,000
	16,989	15,532,000
	.....	6,371,200
	.....	412,401
	.....	936,118
	.....	136,948
	.....	\$43,119,496

*1916 figures are not available for the last three items.

TRADE INQUIRIES

The following inquiries relating to Canadian trade have been received by the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa. The names of the firms making these inquiries, with their addresses, can be obtained only by those especially interested in the respective commodities upon application to: The Inquiries Branch, the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, or the Secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Toronto, or the Secretary of the Board of Trade at London, Toronto, Hamilton, Kingston, Brandon, Halifax, Montreal, St John, Sherbrooke, Vancouver, Victoria, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon, Chambre de Commerce de Montreal, and Moncton, N.B. Please quote the reference number when requesting addresses:—

1506. Pig-iron, Steel plates for Shipbuilding, Marine Oil Engines, etc.—A Genoese firm, who are contractors to the Royal Italian Government and to the leading shipyards, engineering companies and shipowners in Italy, are prepared to open negotiations, for after-the-war trade, with Canadian concerns who manufacture the following: Pig-iron, metals, steel plates and sections for shipbuilding, auxiliary machinery, marine oil engines and other materials used, directly or indirectly, in the shipbuilding and engineering trades.

1507. Electrical Equipment.—An importing house in Genoa, Italy, which is thoroughly conversant with the electrical needs of the Italian market, wishes to correspond immediately with Canadian manufacturers of electric motors, transformers, dynamos, turbines, and electrical cable.

1511. Machinery and Metals.—An important firm of merchants and representatives in Italy, with head offices in Genoa and branches in Milan and Naples, would welcome Canadian agencies in metals and machinery, etc., such as agricultural

machinery, pumps, railway supplies, machine tools, Diesel and semi-Diesel twin motors, 100 to 400 horse-power.

1512. Marble.—A Genoese exporter of Italian marble is open to correspond with Canadian importers for after-the-war trade.

1513. Metals, Ferrous and Non-Ferrous, etc.—An agent in Milan, Italy, would like to open negotiations with Canadian manufacturers of ferrous and non-ferrous metals, and of metal, woodworking and machine-shop tools.

1553. Machinery.—An engineering firm established in Durban, Natal, are prepared to take up agencies or purchase of any suitable machinery, except centrifugal pumps and agricultural machinery.

1554. Machinery and Mining Specialties.—A firm of engineers invite correspondence re agency or purchase on any line of machinery specialties or mining supplies.

GRAND TRUNK ISSUE OVERSUBSCRIBED

A cable received at Grand Trunk headquarters, Montreal, from London this week, stated that the issue of £1,000,000 three-year 6 per cent. notes, recently issued by the Grand Trunk Railway Company in London, had been oversubscribed, notwithstanding the present unfavorable conditions of the money market, due to the war situation. The result of the issue is another proof of the excellent credit which the Grand Trunk Railway holds in financial circles. There have been but rare instances recently of the underwriters being relieved of responsibility with the offering of a new loan. The new notes were issued at 98½ and replace a maturity of like amount falling due next month.

E.B.