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MINERAL OUTPUT REACHED HIGHEST VALUE IN 1917

Total Value \$189,646,534 an Increase of Over 139 Per Cent Since 1906

REVISED FIGURES

The total value of the output of the mines of Canada in 1917 reaches the sum of \$189,646,534, as shown in the annual report of the Department of Mines, on the Mineral Production of Canada, recently issued.

Compared with the total value of the production in 1916, which was \$177,201,534, that of 1917 shows an increase of 7.02 per cent and in point of value represents the largest output on record, as stated in the report.

PRICE AND PRODUCTION INCREASES.

"The total value of the metallic production in 1917, was \$106,455,147 as against a value of \$106,319,365 in 1916, and \$75,814,841 in 1915. While the net change in 1917 was a small increase amounting to only one-tenth of one per cent, it will be noted that decreases in the production of fine metals aggregating over \$7,170,000 were offset by increases in seven metals aggregating over \$7,300,000," the report continues.

"The total value of the production of non-metallic products in 1917 was \$83,191,674, as against \$70,822,169 in 1916; \$61,294,330 in 1915, and \$79,273,461 in 1914. Thus while the value of non-metallic products in 1916 was less than the value in 1912 and 1913, that of 1917 was greater than any previous year. Much of this increase is to be credited to higher prices realized for most of these products though on the other hand important increases have been made in the quantities of certain war minerals produced including asbestos, chromite, graphite and pyrites.

LARGE INCREASES PER CAPITA.

"The total value of the production in 1886 was \$10,221,255, or about \$2.23 per capita. In ten years the value had increased to \$22,474,256, or \$4.38 per

MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE GIVES REASONS FOR NEW WHEAT BOARD

Recommendations of Council of Agriculture Adopted to Safeguard Interests of Wheat Trading Declares Official Statement

SYSTEM OF OPERATION IS EXPLAINED BY MINISTER

The following statement relative to the formation and system of operation of the new Canadian Wheat Board was issued this week by Sir George Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce:

"About the middle of July the Canadian Council of Agriculture, in session at Winnipeg, embodied the results of its deliberations in a memorandum which afterwards came into the hands of the Government and which, in the principle it advocates and in the methods for carrying out that principle, is almost identical with the Government's plan itself.

REASONS FOR CHANGE.

"The Council gave the reasons why a change from normal methods was rendered necessary under present conditions, as follows:

"1. That the entire importations of wheat into European countries is under Government control.

"2. That the United States, Canada's principal competitor in the sale of wheat, has created a highly organized and well financed corporation under Government direction to dispose of its exportable surplus.

"3. That it is imperative in the national interest that Canada should secure the maximum return for its wheat crop.

"4. That the opening of the market for unrestricted trade in wheat on the Canadian Grain Exchanges, as it is in immediate prospect, would promote speculative rather than legitimate trade.

"5. That because the true function of grain exchanges can only be per-

formed when international operations are possible in an unrestricted way, they would entirely fail to provide means for disposing successfully of the wheat crop.

"6. That trading under such conditions, with the attendant risks, would provide a market at country points for the farmers' wheat only at prices much below its real value and at times would be found to result in there being no country market at all.

FOLLOWED EXPERT ADVICE.

"Therefore," the memorandum concludes, "The Canadian Council of Agriculture is strongly opposed to the opening of the Canadian markets for unrestricted trade in wheat and would reiterate its recommendation of August, 1918, that the Government of Canada create, without delay, a body similar to the United States Grain Corporation, with the financial accommodation adequate to its operations."

"This is precisely what the Government has done and in doing it has followed step by step and line by line the detailed recommendations of the grain committee of the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

"The main difference is that instead of creating a corporation and putting \$200,000,000 at its back, the Government has appointed a Canadian Wheat Board and has put the necessary financial accommodation at its disposal. In no other essential point is the system organized by the Government at variance with the recommendation of the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

"As a sample of outside opinion, the Winnipeg Free Press on July 30, before the Government's plan was known advocated the following:—

"The pooling of interests, so that our exportable surplus may be handled by a single agency and sold in whatever market available, for the best price obtainable is practically the only practicable solution. If we are to have a unified control of our wheat export, it is evident that the Government will have to play a leading part in the combination. It alone can command the necessary financial support or secure the required tonnage."

"An appreciable difference between the two plans is that the Council of Agriculture advocated the setting of a fixed minimum price, whereas the Government plan sets no minimum price, but guarantees an initial payment on the sale of the wheat and the distribution of the total proceeds after the marketing of the entire stock. In both plans the sale of the products of wheat as well as of wheat itself, was put under the control of the central board."

SOME ARTICLES IN PRESENT NUMBER.

Telegraphic Reports on Dominion Crops..... Page 7.

By-products Wasted in Direct Use of Coal as Fuel. Page 6.

Quebec's Fur and Game Control..... Page 5.

capita more than twice the total in 1886, and nearly twice the production per capita. The next ten years witnessed an increase to \$79,286,697 in 1906, or \$12.81 per capita, about three and a half times the production in 1886. From 1906 to 1917, the total production has shown an increase of over 139 per cent.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

A very large portion of the mineral production of Canada is exported for consumption or refining outside of the Dominion. On the other hand, considerable quantities of mine products chiefly those which have been refined or subjected to partial treatment, or in the form of manufactured goods ready for consumption, are imported.

"The total value of the exports of products of the mine including direct mine products and manufactures thereof in 1917 was \$176,805,818, compared with \$171,178,583 in 1916. This value includes for 1917 mine products to the value of \$77,069,667, and manufactures valued at \$90,736,151, as against mine products valued at \$80,755,461 and manufactures valued at \$90,423,122 in 1916.

"Practically the whole of the Canadian production of copper, nickel and silver is exported, also a very large proportion of the production of gold, asbestos, and mica. There are as well, considerable exports of coal. These products alone contribute about 90 per cent of the value of the mine products exported. Manufactured goods products exported consist chiefly of iron and steel goods, agricultural implements, aluminium, calcium carbide, acetate of lime fertilizers and coke.

STATEMENT OF IMMIGRATION TO CANADA DURING APRIL, MAY AND JUNE, 1919, COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1918.

	1918-19.				1919-20.				Percentages of Increase.
	British.	From U. S. A.	Other Countries.	Totals.	British.	From U. S. A.	Other Countries.	Totals.	
April.....	430	6,310	383	7,123	3,244	7,524	500	11,268	58%
May.....	269	4,554	438	5,261	4,534	5,198	465	10,197	94%
June.....	157	3,277	461	3,895	2,601	4,707	505	7,813	101%
Totals...	856	14,141	1,282	16,279	10,379	17,429	1,470	29,278	80%