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ONTARIO MINERAL OUTPUT INCREASING

The report of production of Ontario mines and works for the first half of the year, prepared by Mr. T. W. Gibson, Deputy Minister of Mines, shows notable increase in total output of metals. There was a slight decrease in silver from Cobalt district; but a large increase in gold from the Porcupine mines. The satisfactory condition of the nickel industry is told by the substantial increase in output of Sudbury mines.

For several years Ontario's total output has shown an increase, and 1913 bids fair to set a new record.

The Cobalt district may be expected to yield less silver than in 1912, and unless some remarkable discoveries are made, there will be a further falling off next year. The very rich ore forms a smaller and smaller percentage of the production of the district. It is to be expected, however, that Cobalt will be a very large producer of silver for many years to come.

The Porcupine district is by far the most important producer of gold that has yet been found in Ontario. 1913 will go on record as the first in which Ontario has produced a very large amount of the precious metal. Next year there will probably be a considerably larger production, provided, of course, that labour troubles are avoided.

There is also good reason to expect an increase in output of nickel and copper, as the operating companies are finding a satisfactory market and are preparing to enlarge their plants.

The output of iron is still small, but has increased greatly during the past few years.

THE GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS EXCURSIONS

It was expected from the announcements describing the excursions to be taken during the summer, that these trips would prove of extraordinary interest to both visiting geologists and to Canadians. Such proved to be the case. Places of special geological and mining interest all across the continent were visited under unusually advantageous conditions. The Dominion and Provincial Governments aided liberally and the transportation companies did their part in a way which won for them much praise.

To the Department of Mines of Canada and to the mining departments of the governments of Ontario, British Columbia, and Quebec belongs most of the credit. The numerous members of these several departments all assisted. Mr. W. S. Lecky, secretary of the Congress, did an enormous amount of work, and did it well. President F. D. Adams, Dr. A. E. Barlow,