

leading manufacturers of dental supplies. During 1932 considerable interest was shown in the development of long-life platinum wound furnaces, in the form of small laboratory and dental equipment as well as commercial furnaces. Platinum as a catalyst in the production of sulphuric acid was given more attention in 1932. Tests of corrosion-resisting alloys containing platinum were begun in chemical plant equipment in which base metals proved to be inadequate.

The United States Bureau of Mines state that reports from refiners of crude platinum, gold bullion and copper indicate that 17,616 ounces of new platinum metals were recovered in the United States in 1932, a decrease of 51 per cent as compared with 1931; platinum metals sold by refiners in the United States during 1932 were as follows:-

	<u>Platinum</u>	<u>Palladium</u>	<u>Iridium</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	(Troy ounces)				
To -					
Chemical Industry	5,157	495	52	218	5,922
Electrical	3,456	6,309	431	23	10,219
Dental	8,683	12,900	73	9	21,665
Jewellery	33,376	5,817	1,719	314	41,226
Miscellaneous	3,896	204	274	27	4,401
TOTAL	54,568	25,725	2,549	591	83,433

Stocks of platinum metals in the hands of United States refiners on December 31, 1932, amounted to 75,911 ounces, a decrease of 14 per cent from 1931.

According to a "Reuter" message from Moscow the Soviet Finance Commissariat was believed in May, 1933, to be considering the introduction of a platinum currency to meet the increase of output of the metal and, at the same time, for the convenience of foreigners. The currency, according to the report, would be purchasable only for foreign "valuta" in order not to restrict the supply of dollars and sterling essential for meeting commitments abroad.

"Metallwirtschaft" states that an electric resistance furnace using rhodium wire as a heating element was being developed at the Institute of Technology, Berlin, in 1932, the new furnace equipped with a rhodium resistance wire of 0.6 mm. diameter, operated at 14.5 amps. and 35 volts. The results obtained showed that a temperature of above 1700 degrees C. could be safely obtained.

It is announced that operations will be resumed in South Africa at an early date at the mine of Rustenburg Platinum Mines Ltd., in which the Potgietersrust Platinums Ltd., is largely interested. This company commenced production on September 1, 1931, but owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the market for platinum and allied metals, stocks accumulated to such an extent that suspension of operations were necessitated in April, 1932.

The United States Department of Commerce reports that during 1932 Colombia exported 16,055 ounces of platinum from Cartagena and Buenaventura, the bulk going from the former port. Export figures for platinum may usually be considered as production figures since there is no domestic consumption, but it is understood that much of the 1932 output was not exported.

The International Platinum Cartel appears to have become more active, and it may now be able to make its effectiveness felt in the trade in a higher degree than before. Recent trade movements indicate that the Soviets are co-operating with the Cartel.

Production of Platinum Group Metals in Canada, 1931 and 1932.

	P L A T I N U M		PALLADIUM, RHODIUM, IRIDIUM, ETC.	
	Fine ounces	\$	Fine ounces	\$
<u>1931</u>				
Ontario	44,725	1,595,117	46,918	1,217,717
British Columbia ..	50	1,783	...	...
TOTAL	44,775	1,596,900	46,918	1,217,717
<u>1932</u>				
Ontario	27,284	1,097,021	37,613	901,890
British Columbia ..	59	2,372	...	...
TOTAL	27,343	1,099,393	37,613	901,890

Imports into Canada and Exports of Platinum, 1931 and 1932.

	1 9 3 1		1 9 3 2	
	Fine oz.	\$	Fine oz.	\$
<u>IMPORTS</u> --				
Platinum retorts, pans, etc. ....	...	1,520	...	30
Platinum wire, and in bars, strips, etc. ....	...	45,802	...	29,740
Platinum crucibles .....	...	7,106	...	8,638
TOTAL .....	...	54,428	...	38,408
<u>EXPORTS</u> --				
Contained in concentrates	14,202	1,135,388	14,570	1,155,705
Platinum, old and scrap	81	2,070	50	2,374
TOTAL	14,283	1,137,458	14,620	1,158,079

D I R E C T O R Y

Canadian Mining and Smelting Companies Producing Platinum Metals, 1932.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Head Office</u>	<u>Location of Refinery</u>
International Nickel Co. of Canada, Ltd.	Copper Cliff, Ont.	Acton, England
Falconbridge Nickel Mines Ltd.	100 Adelaide St. W., Toronto, Ont.	Kristiansand, Norway

The following table shows the estimated value of the Transvaal sales and shipments of osmiridium and platinum during 1932 as compared with 1931:--

	<u>1 9 3 1</u>		<u>1 9 3 2</u>	
	<u>Corrected</u> Ounces	Value(pounds)	<u>Estimated</u> Ounces	Value(pounds)
Osmiridium	6,199	63,174	4,998	39,936
Platinum	36,545(x)	217,807	7,086(x)	42,352

(x) According to the Government Mining Engineer's table, from which these figures are quoted, they include "other metals of the platinum group and some gold."



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WORLD PRODUCTION OF PLATINUM METALS, 1929-1931.

(Troy Ounces)

Producing Country	1929	1930	1931
<u>BRITISH EMPIRE</u>			
Sierre Leone -			
Crude	26	542	594
Union of South Africa -			
Crude (content)	24,084	49,375	41,220
Concentrates (content)	5,730	5,967	5,943
Osmiridium	5,810	5,732	6,306
Canada -			
Platinum from placers (content)	28	17	20
Recovered from Ontario nickel-copper matte:-			
Platinum	12,491	34,007	44,775
Palladium	12,408	29,959	46,918
Other metals	4,910	4,133	
New South Wales -			
Platinum from placers	128	155	283
Tasmania -			
Osmiridium from placers	1,360	953	1,280
New Zealand -			
Platinum from placers	7	3	1
Papua (years ended June 30) -			
Osmiridium from placers	29	11	20
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>			
Russia -			
Crude platinum from placers (estimated)	100,000	(a)	(a)
Abyssinia -			
Platinum	3,842	3,805	(a)
United States -			
Platinum from placers	797	527	885
Domestic crude platinum purchased by refiners	516	797	446
New platinum metals recovered by refineries(b)	47,977	43,502	36,205
Colombia -			
Platinum from placers	45,576(e)	42,381(e)	35,793
Japan -			
Platinum from placers	147	128	(a)

(a) Information not available.

(b) These figures include recoveries from imported concentrates, etc.

(c) Figures as published by U.S. Bureau of Mines.

Complete data for 1932 not available.

NOTE:- The above table on world production was taken from the Imperial Institute's publication "The Mineral Industry of the British Empire and Foreign Countries."