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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch
Chief: W. H. Losee, B.Sc.GOLD PRODUCTION IN CANADA,
DECEMBER, 1931.

Gold production in Canada during December reached a total of 240,622 ounces valued at \$4,974,098, according to a report just issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. In November the output was 237,312 ounces worth \$4,905,674 and in December, 1930, Canada's production was 219,779 ounces at \$4,543,235. During the month under review, Ontario mines produced 139,318 ounces, made up of 93,354 ounces from the Kirkland Lake area, 89,372 ounces from the Porcupine area, and 6,592 ounces from other sources. Quebec's gold output amounted to 25,439 ounces or 2.4 per cent below the November total. British Columbia's production was 14,696 ounces as compared with 17,082 ounces last month. Manitoba's total rose 13.7 per cent to 10,120 ounces; this month's records included the first shipment of gold bullion from the Gem Lake mine.

SUMMARY - CANADIAN PRODUCTION, 1931(x)

Canada's gold production in 1931 of 2,682,776 ounces valued at \$55,457,900 set up a new high record for this precious metal. This total was 27.6 per cent above the 1930 production of 2,102,068 ounces.

During the calendar year 1931 Nova Scotia mines produced 461 ounces of gold from several deposits in the course of development.

In Quebec the output of gold recorded an appreciable advance to 301,040 ounces. Gold contained in blister copper produced by the Noranda Mines, Limited, was mainly responsible for this increase. The Siscoe mine in Dubuisson township and the Granada mine in Rouyn township operated continuously in 1931. The O'Brien-Cadillac mine in Cadillac township and the Venus mine in Barraute township were in operation during the year and made some shipments of gold. Much interest was shown in the exploratory and development work on the Beattie property in Duparquet township. Considerable diamond drilling was done on this deposit during 1931. The new gold region in the townships of Pascalis and Lowvrecourt was the centre of active development work in 1931; extensive diamond drilling was done on several deposits in this district.

Ontario's gold production rose 19.8 per cent in 1931 to 2,079,752 ounces valued at \$42,992,283 as compared with 1,736,012 ounces worth \$35,836,552 produced in 1930. Ore treated during the year showed a considerable advance due in the main part to the bringing in of the new Dome mill of 1,500 tons daily capacity, the enlarging of Lake Shore's mill to handle 2,400 tons per day as against 1,375 tons and Teck Hughes' mill to treat 1,300 tons per day instead of 925 tons. The new McIntyre mill raised the

Note: Data for the calendar year 1931 obtained from monthly reports received from principal operators. (Subject to revision).

Gold valued at the standard rate \$20.671834 per fine ounce.

quantity of ore handled each day from 1,580 tons to 1,800 tons in 1931. The Howey mill was stepped up from 442 tons to 623 tons. Hollinger production was maintained at a high level throughout the year. Coniaurum output showed a rising trend, in the closing months of the year. The March mine was active all year; production was raised slightly above the 1930 level. Porcupine United closed down in March after producing a small quantity of gold. Production at the Vipond was less than in 1930; towards the close of the year considerable exploratory work was carried on at this property. At the Minro-Croesus, milling operations commenced in August.

Kirkland Lake was the scene of much activity in 1931 and production in this area set up a new high record. Barry Hollinger continued to produce at the same rate as in the previous year. Kirkland Lake Gold opened up a good grade of ore at 4,700 feet; this is the deepest gold mining in Canada. In addition to stepping up production to a higher rate, Lake Shore introduced during the year oil flotation as a preliminary treatment to cyaniding; this resulted in a higher gold recovery. Sylvanite experienced a successful year, with production approximately 13 per cent above the 1930 level. Teck Hughes output advanced over 13 per cent during 1931. The Telluride mill was operated early in the year but on June 10th it was destroyed by fire. The excellent results achieved by the Wright Hargreaves exploratory programme were a feature of the Kirkland Lake camp activities in 1931. Bidgood and Moffatt Hall carried out considerable development work during the year.

In 1931, an appreciable quantity of gold was produced from the nickel-copper ores of the Sudbury area. Mining Corporation continued development work on the Ashley property in Bannockburn township, Matachewan area. The main shaft was being sunk to 500 feet and present plans call for the building of a mill in 1932. At the Moss mine in the Michipicoten district the construction of a 100 ton cyanide mill was in progress. The Minto mine in Michipicoten commenced milling operations in June. Parkhill, in the same district, started producing in July.

Production of gold in Manitoba totalled 100,734 ounces valued at \$2,082,357 as compared with 23,189 ounces at \$479,359 in 1930. The increased output in 1931 was due mainly to the operations of the Hudson Bay Smelting and Refining Company. This company's production was obtained from the blister copper produced at the Flin Flon smelter from ores from the Flin Flon mine, augmented by concentrates shipped from the Sherritt-Gordon mine. Operations at the Central Manitoba mine in southeastern Manitoba were continuous during 1931; production being maintained at a high rate. The Gem Lake mine in the same district operated a 10 ton pilot mill and made a small shipment of bullion to the Royal Mint, Ottawa, late in 1931. Construction of a new 50 ton mill is in progress at this property. The building of a 150 ton cyanide mill by the San Antonio Gold Company was completed ready for the installation of machinery. This mill is expected to be in operation in April, 1932. The Kiskoba property at Herb Lake made a small shipment of high grade ore to the Trail smelter during the year. Towards the close of the year a new gold find at Island Lake in northeastern Manitoba aroused much interest.

Gold production in British Columbia reached a total of 156,728 ounces valued at \$3,239,355 in 1931; in the previous year 164,351 ounces at \$3,397,023 were produced. Activities in placer mining in this province during the year were outstanding. The output of gold by the Britannia copper-gold mine was considerably lower than in 1930. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company's gold output was 10 per cent above their previous year's total. Gold in the blister copper produced by the Granby Consolidated at Anyox showed a slight advance. The Hedley Nickel Plate mine was idle all year. The Pioneer mine in the Bridge River district

made excellent progress in 1931; recoveries of gold during the last six months represented approximately \$18.60 per ton. Development work and the construction of a mill is being proceeded with by the Lorne Gold in the same district. The Premier mine was the largest gold producer in British Columbia during 1931. Operations at the Prosperity and Porter Idaho mines were suspended in April. Reno, in the Nelson district, was in operation all year; some changes were made in the mill during the year and in December experimental work was in progress towards improving gold recoveries. Development work was continued at the Union mine in the Grand Forks district and additions were made to the mill during the year. Towards the close of 1931 some high grade ore was shipped from this mine to the Bunker Hill smelter.

In the Yukon, increased activities in placer mining resulted in an appreciable advance in gold output. During 1931, production totalled 44,061 ounces worth \$910,822, as against 35,517 ounces at \$734,202 in 1930.

WORLD

Output of gold in the Transvaal, the world's leading gold producing centre, reached record heights in 1931 when 10,874,145 ounces were produced. This total included 10,355,190 ounces from the Witwatersrand mines. A preliminary estimate made by the United States Bureau of Mines places the United States gold production at 2,191,881 ounces or 4.4 per cent higher than the 1930 total of 2,100,395 ounces.

PRODUCTION OF GOLD IN CANADA, BY MONTHS, 1929-1931 (Fine ounces)

Months	1929	1930	1931
January	150,554	154,506	202,351
February	145,981	145,806	195,113
March	155,932	164,187	204,038
April	153,470	169,596	222,073
May	165,139	168,695	215,775
June	170,450	175,927	228,593
July	159,346	170,697	227,898
August	164,522	170,052	228,243
September	161,543	178,291	242,136
October	132,148	186,844	238,617
November	150,497	197,683	237,312
December	168,726	219,779	240,622
Calendar year	1,928,308	2,102,063	2,632,776

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