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Monthly Report on
CANADA'S LEADING MINERAL PRODUCTS
JANUARY 1931

More gold, silver, lead, zinc, cement and petroleum were produced in Canada during January 1931, than in the corresponding month of 1930 according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics latest report on Canada's leading mineral products.

Canadian copper producers reported a production of 21,859,908 pounds of copper in January as compared with 22,148,648 pounds in December and 24,936,756 pounds in January 1930. Output during the month under review consisted of 4.9 million pounds from Quebec, 9.0 million pounds from Ontario, 2.3 million pounds from Manitoba and 5.6 million pounds from British Columbia. The month opened with electrolytic copper quoted at 10.275 cents per pound while the closing quotation was 9.525 cents; the average for the month was 9.838 cents per pound.

January's gold production totalled 202,785 ounces, made up of 160,016 ounces from Ontario, 20,264 ounces from Quebec, 11,048 ounces from British Columbia and the remainder from Nova Scotia, Manitoba and the Yukon. In December 1930 the total output was 227,558 ounces while in January of the same year, 154,114 ounces were produced.

Ontario, British Columbia and the Yukon were the only provinces producing lead during January. The total output for the month was 28,589,411 pounds; in the corresponding month of last year 23,231,247 pounds were produced. The London market for lead was unsettled during January and the average price for the month recorded a further decline to 3.01 cents per pound as compared with 3.32 cents in December.

Nickel production amounted to 6.5 million pounds in January. Falconbridge Mines, Limited, resumed shipments of nickel-copper matte during the month.

The Canadian production of silver during January totalled 2,117,670 ounces, a decline of 4.9 per cent from the December output of 2,202,875 ounces, but an advance of 23.9 per cent over the January 1930 total of 1,709,222 ounces. According to the Engineering and Mining World, silver quotations in January fell to a new all-time low of 28.5 cents per ounce in New York. The average price for the month was 29.423 cents per ounce.

Manitoba and British Columbia were the only producers of zinc in Canada in January. Output during the month was recorded at 20,313,866 pounds, a decline of 13.2 per cent from the December total but an advance of 14.4 per cent over the January 1930 production. The average price of zinc on the London market was 2.77 cents per pound as against 2.99 cents in December and 4.266 cents in January 1930.

Asbestos shipments were lower in January and amounted to 12,807 tons, as against 17,480 tons in December and 17,117 tons in January 1930.

Shipments of feldspar were recorded at 600 tons; in January last year 2,540 tons were shipped.

Gypsum production in January amounted to 10,000 tons as compared with 11,277 tons in the corresponding month of 1930.

The output of Canadian coal during January of 1,164,498 tons recorded a decline of 24.7 per cent from the five-year average for the month of 1,545,523 tons. January output consisted of 455,307 tons from Alberta, 438,491 tons from Nova Scotia, 166,475 tons from British Columbia, 83,411 tons from Saskatchewan and 20,814 tons from New Brunswick.

Natural gas production in January amounted to 3,200,000 thousand cubic feet; Alberta wells supplied 65.9 per cent of this total, Ontario wells 31.1 per cent and New Brunswick wells 3 per cent.

Petroleum production from Canadian wells amounted to 179,711 barrels in January as compared with the record monthly output in December of 186,898 barrels and the January 1930 total of 100,496 barrels. Alberta's production during the month under review totalled 168,785 barrels made up of 159,588 barrels of crude naphtha, 8,484 barrels of light crude and 713 barrels of heavy crude.

The production of commercial salt and the salt content of brine produced for use in chemical works reached a total of 17,641 tons in January, a decline of 28.1 per cent from the January 1930 output of 24,530 tons.

Cement sales of 335,469 barrels were 24.6 per cent above the total for January 1930 but 13 per cent below the January 1929 production.

The value of clay products production during January was \$457,190; Ontario operators accounted for 45.7 per cent of this total and those in Quebec 23.4 per cent. In January 1930, total shipments were valued at \$477,449 or 4.2 per cent higher.

Lime production in January of 28,874 tons, was the lowest monthly output on record for the past two years.

PRODUCTION OF LEADING MINERALS IN CANADA.

		December 1930	January 1931	January 1930	Twelve Months ending December	
					1929	1930
Asbestos	tons	17,480	12,807	17,117	306,055	242,112
Cement	brls.	452,571	335,469	269,195	12,284,081	11,032,539
Clay Products	\$	495,315	457,190	477,449	13,904,643	10,697,218
Coal	tons	1,285,629	1,164,498	1,643,622	17,496,557	14,878,728
Copper	lb.	22,148,648	21,859,908	24,936,756	248,120,760	303,356,644
Feldspar	tons	3,340	600	2,540	37,527	27,423
Gold	fine oz.	229,558	202,785	154,114	1,928,308	2,107,073
Gypsum	tons	23,494	10,000	11,277	1,211,689	1,040,883
Lead	lb.	32,594,426	28,589,411	23,231,247	326,522,566	333,067,797
Lime	tons	52,315	28,874	42,437	674,087	507,859
Natural gas M cu. ft.		3,620,765	3,200,000	3,888,517	28,378,462	29,104,573
Nickel	lb.	5,393,656	6,500,944	9,228,010	110,275,912	103,768,857
Petroleum	brls.	186,898	179,711	100,496	1,117,368	1,557,725
Salt	tons	15,500	17,641	24,530	330,264	268,851
Silver	fine cz.	2,202,875	2,117,670	1,709,222	23,143,261	26,435,935
Zinc	lb.	23,409,282	20,313,866	17,754,289	197,267,087	267,665,479

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