

26-007

Published by Authority of the HON. H. H. STEVENS, M. P.
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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BUREAU OF STATISTICS
1931
PROPERTY

Monthly Report on
CANADA'S LEADING MINERAL PRODUCTS,
FEBRUARY 1931

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics report on Canada's leading mineral products for February records increases in the production of gold, silver, cement, gypsum, and petroleum over the totals for February, 1930.

Copper output in Canada during February 1931 totalled 22,970,724 pounds, consisting of 5.57 million pounds from Quebec, 9.77 million pounds from Ontario, 2.13 million pounds from Manitoba, and 5.49 million pounds from British Columbia. During February, 1930, the Canadian production amounted to 24,226,221 pounds of which quantity Quebec contributed 6.74 million pounds, Ontario, 10.09 million pounds, and British Columbia, 7.39 million pounds. The average price of electrolytic copper in February, 1931, was 9.724 cents per pound as compared with 9.838 cents in January.

The Canadian production of gold in February was 195,118 ounces as against 202,785 ounces in the preceding month and 145,436 ounces in February last year. During the month under review Ontario's output was 156,994 ounces made up of 77,567 ounces from Kirkland Lake, 75,500 ounces from the Porcupine area, and 3,927 ounces from other sources; Quebec's total was 17,459 ounces; British Columbia's, 11,233 ounces; while Manitoba, the Yukon and Nova Scotia accounted for the remainder.

Lead production in February declined to the lowest point on record during the past two years. Output during the month totalled 19,326,869 pounds as compared with 28,589,411 pounds in January and 31,860,290 pounds in February, 1930. The average price of lead on the London market in February was 2 92 cents per pound; in January, the average was 3 01 cents per pound. According to the Engineering and Mining World the demand for lead in London has increased owing to a moderate seasonal improvement in business and a feeling that commodity prices may follow the upward trend in share value.

Canada's nickel output during February totalled 6.69 million pounds; in January, 6.5 million pounds were produced.

The output of silver in February reached a total of 2,111,765 ounces, a slight decline from the January production but an increase of 14.65 per cent over the February, 1930 total. Silver quotations recorded a further decline during the month under review to an average of 26.773 cents per ounce.

Refined zinc produced in Manitoba and British Columbia during February amounted to 20,553,489 pounds, an advance of 1.18 per cent over the January output. In February, 1930, the total output of zinc was 20,686,156 pounds. Zinc quotations on the London market showed a falling-off in February the average for the month was 2.67 cents per pound as compared with 2.77 cents per pound in January.

Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines were recorded at 13,147 tons, an increase of 2.65 per cent over the January production but a decline of 18.4 per cent from the February, 1930, total.

Coal output from Canadian mines in February totalled 963,443 tons, a decline of 28 per cent from the five-year average for the month of 1,342,320 tons. In February, Alberta mines produced 333,110 tons or 34 per cent of the total Canadian output. Nova Scotia produced 403,437 tons; British Columbia, 149,589 tons; Saskatchewan, 56,728 tons; and New Brunswick, 20,579 tons.

Feldspar production during February amounted to 377 tons as compared with 600 tons in the previous month and 7,470 tons in February last year.

February shipments of gypsum from Canadian deposits totalled 19,162 tons, an increase of 67.9 per cent over the production in the corresponding month of 1930.

Production of natural gas in Canada during February totalled 2,976,140 thousand cubic feet consisting of 1,961,319 thousand cubic feet from Alberta, 923,275 thousand cubic feet from Ontario and 91,546 thousand cubic feet from New Brunswick. In February 1930, the total output was 3,178,862 thousand cubic feet.

The average daily production of petroleum from Canadian wells in February was 5,559 barrels as compared with 5,797 barrels in January and 3,213 barrels in February last year. During the month under review production in Alberta was 145,000 barrels, in Ontario, 10,189 barrels, and in New Brunswick, 462 barrels.

Salt output from Canadian sources reached a total of 16,784 tons as compared with 20,245 tons in February 1930. This production included commercial salt sold and the salt content of brine used for chemical purposes.

Shipments of cement in February totalled 409,010 barrels, an advance of 38.27 per cent over the February 1930 sales but a decline of 5.04 per cent from the February 1929 total.

Sales of clay products by Canadian producers were valued at \$420,446 in February, a decline of 5.9 per cent from the value recorded in the corresponding month of the previous year.

Lime production in February amounted to 26,647 tons as compared with 28,874 tons in January and 36,118 tons in February 1930.

PRODUCTION OF LEADING MINERALS IN CANADA.

		January 1931	February 1931	February 1930	Two Months ending February	
					1930	1931
Asbestos	tons	12,807	13,147	16,112	33,229	25,954
Cement	brls.	335,469	409,010	295,810	565,005	744,479
Clay Products	\$	457,190	420,446	446,813	924,262	877,636
Coal	tons	1,164,498	963,443	1,194,710	2,838,332	2,127,941
Copper	lb.	21,859,908	22,970,724	24,226,221	49,162,977	44,830,632
Feldspar	tons	600	377	7,470	10,010	977
Gold	fine oz.	202,785	195,118	145,436	299,550	397,903
Gypsum	tons	10,000	19,162	11,410	22,687	29,162
Lead	lb.	28,589,411	19,326,869	31,860,290	55,091,537	47,916,280
Lime	tons	28,874	26,647	36,118	78,555	55,521
Natural gas M cu. ft.		3,200,000	2,976,140	3,178,862	7,067,379	6,176,140
Nickel	lb.	6,500,944	6,693,185	7,734,229	16,962,239	13,194,129
Petroleum	brls.	179,711	155,651	89,961	190,457	335,362
Salt	tons	17,641	16,784	20,245	44,775	34,425
Silver	fine oz.	2,117,670	2,111,765	1,841,836	3,551,058	4,229,433
Zinc	lb.	20,313,866	20,553,489	20,686,156	38,440,445	40,867,355

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