Historical File Copy

Published by Authority of Hon. H. H. Stevens, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce.

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS -- CANADA Dominión Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch Chief: W. H. Losee, B.Sc.

F.R.S.C. OF THE

DOMISION

MA

SILVER, LEAD AND ZINC PRODUCTION IN CANADA, MARCH, 1932.

SILVER - The steady decline in silver production in Canada since December, 1931, was continued during March. Output during the month totalled 1,460,137 ounces with a valuation in Canadian funds of 486,497, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. In February 1,600,501 ounces worth \$552,337 were produced and in March, a year ago, the production was 1,886,652 ounces valued at \$550,751.

Silver was quoted in New York at 31 cents per ounce on the first of March, however the month closed with quotations at 29.75 cents per ounce. The average price for March was 29.81 cents per ounce as compared with 30.136 cents in February.

Silver production in the United States during March declined 2 per cent to 1,644,000 ounces as compared with 1,677,000 ounces in February. An increase of 7.6 per cent was recorded in Australia's output; the total for the month was 609,000 ounces as against 566,000 ounces in February. Peru's production of 562,000 ounces was 7.9 per cent above the February total.

LEAD - Lead production in Canada during March was recorded at 21,332,722 pounds as compared with 20,154,613 pounds produced in February and 25,664,846 pounds in March, 1931.

Quotations for lead on the London market in March averaged 2.2396 cents per pound at which price the Canadian production was worth \$477,768. During the preceding month, the average price was 2.5732 cents per pound and the value of the Canadian output \$518,619. The New York price for lead was firm at 3.25 cents per pound to the fourteenth, then a decline to 3.15 cents was recorded, with a further falling-off to 3.00 cents on the twenty-third. St. Louis quotations ranged from an opening high of 3.05 cents per pound to a low of 2.90 cents per pound at the close of the month.

World output of lead totalled 110,502 tons, a decline of 0.7 per cent from the February production of 111,290 tons. A comparison of the daily rates of production shows a more pronounced falling-off; the March rate was 3,565 tons and the February average 3,838 tons.

<u>ZINC</u> - Canadian producers reported an output of 15,165,791 pounds of zinc an increase of 6.6 per cent over the February production but a decline of 34.9 per cent from the March, 1931 total. Production during the first quarter of 1932 totalled 44,501,021 pounds as compared with 64,165,143 pounds in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Zinc averaged 2.2888 cents per pound on the London market in March, at which price the Canadian production was worth \$347,115. Quotations on the St. Louis market reached a new all-time low of 2.75 cents per pound; the average price for the month was 2.787 cents.

An advance of 7.2 per cent was recorded in the world output of zinc in March; the month's total was 81,305 tons as against 75,842 tons in February. Mexico was the only leading producing country to show a decreased output in March.

PRODUCTION OF SILVER, LEAD AND ZINC IN CANADA

| MARCH - | SILVER | LEAD | ZINC |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1932 | 1,460,137 ounces | 21,332,722 pounds | 15,165,791 pounds |
| 1931 | 1,886,652 ounces | 25,664,846 pounds | 23,297,788 pounds |
| 1930 | 1,795,865 ounces | 32,432,687 pounds | 22,188,090 pounds |
| 1929,, | 1,547,888 ounces | 23,987,657 pounds | 19,050,553 pounds |
| THREE MONTHS ENDING MARCH | - | | |
| 1932 | 4,833,479 ounces | 62,954,380 pounds | 44,501,021 pounds |
| 1931 | 6,116,087 ounces | 73,133,601 pounds | 64,165,143 pounds |
| 1930 | 5,310,264 ounces | 87,861,5¥2 pounds | 60,354,810 pounds |
| 1929 | 4,248,346 ounces | 69,544,190 pounds | 51,298,884 pounds |

