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# DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS MINING, METALLURGICAL AND CHEMICAL BRANCH OTTAWA - CANADA

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MONTHLY REPORT

SILVER, LEAD and ZINC PRODUCTION IN CANADA - MARCH, 1939.

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SILVER - Silver production in Canada during March totalled 1,620,396 ounces according to a report just issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. In February, 1,281,624 ounces were produced while in March, 1938, the output was 1,698,215 ounces. The Canadian output during the first quarter amounted to 4,434,942 ounces compared with 4,700,115 ounces produced in the corresponding period, a year ago.

Silver quotations on the New York market (Handy & Harman) averaged 42.924 cents per ounce, in Canadian funds; valued at this price, the Canadian output during the month was worth \$695,539. In February, the average price was 42.959 cents per ounce and the value of the month's production was \$550,573.

Canada exported silver bullion to a total of 1,777,408 ounces in March compared with 866,045 ounces in the preceding month. Exports of silver in ore, concentrates, etc., rose to 267,937 ounces from the February total of 166,645 ounces.

The imports of silver bullion in Canada in March were recorded at 260,497 ounces valued at \$111,562; in February, 61,391 ounces worth \$26,697 were imported. The March receipts were made up of 133,385 ounces from the United States and 127,112 ounces from Great Britain.

The United States produced 5,067,000 ounces of silver in March; this represented a 3.8 per cent falling off from the output in the preceding month. In Peru, silver production declined to 1,650,000 ounces from the February total of 1,700,000 ounces.

#### PRODUCTION OF SILVER IN CANADA

| Month   | 1939(a)                             | 1938(a)  | 1937   |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|
|   | Ounces                              | Ounces   | Ounces   |
| January February March April May June July August September October November December TOTAL - CALENDAR YEAR | 1,532,922<br>1,281,624<br>1,620,396 | 1,571,052<br>1,430,848<br>1,698,215<br>1,606,723<br>1,571,437<br>2,821,218<br>2,584,296<br>2,139,043<br>1,680,722<br>1,774,446<br>1,706,529<br>1,681,078 | 1,399,094<br>1,341,800<br>1,692,055<br>1,504,214<br>1,359,702<br>2,390,368<br>2,806,580<br>3,059,196<br>2,367,022<br>2,042,044<br>1,636,109<br>1,379,567 |
|   |                                     | 22, 265, 607   | 22,977,751   |
| TOTAL - THREE MONTHS ending MARCH   | 4,434,942                           | 4,700,115  | 4,432,949  |

<sup>(</sup>a) Subject to revision.

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### IMPORTS OF SILVER BULLION INTO GREAT BRITAIN DURING MARCH, 1939.

| 3717                    | UNREFINED       |              | REFINED                             |                               |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                         | Troy ounces     | £            | Troy ounces                         | æ                             |
| Union of South Africa   | 4,059<br>15,780 | 335<br>1,161 | 121,887                             | 11,144                        |
| British India           | 550,558         | 36,836       | û # «<br>0 • 0                      |                               |
| Canada                  | 45              | • • •        | 423,158<br>31,267                   | 37,964<br>2,809               |
| Other British countries | 209.445         | 71 500       | 131,403<br>348,452<br>814,422       | 12,153<br>31,902<br>74,594    |
| Belgium                 | 81,113          | 21,500 6,228 | 1,434,850<br>1,277,103<br>4,973,855 | 129,593<br>118,649<br>455,599 |
| Mexico                  | 7,368<br>1,323  | 511<br>115   | 137,904                             | 13,558                        |
| TOTAL                   | 869,691         | 66,690       | 9,694,301                           | 887,965                       |

LEAD - The Canadian output of lead was recorded at 32,377.979 pounds in March; in the preceding month, 26,301,416 pounds were produced while in March, 1938, the output was 35,176,663 pounds. During the first three months of the current year, 90,785,647 pounds of lead were produced compared with 99,485,347 pounds, a year ago.

Quotations for lead on the London market in March averaged 3.052 cents per pound, in Canadian funds; the February average price was 2.994 cents a pound. Based on these prices, the March and February outputs in Canada were worth \$988,176 and \$787,464, respectively.

Pig lead exports rose to 46,789,500 pounds in March from the February total of 30,512,400 pounds. There were no exports of lead in ore, concentrates, etc. from Canada during March.

An advance of 12 per cent was shown in the world output of refined lead in March; the month's output was 159,969 tons as against 142,777 tons in February. Production in the United States included 37,790 tons from domestic ore and 3,009 tons from secondary and foreign; shipments during the month amounted to 40,871 tons with the result that stocks increased slightly to 122,035 tons.

#### PRODUCTION OF LEAD IN CANADA

| Pounds       Pounds       Pounds         January       32,106,252       37,522,125       33,837,404         February       26,301,416       26,786,559       28,148,960         March       32,377,979       35,176,663       34,875,643         April       35,406,758       34,793,543         May       32,408,798       33,857,445         July       37,934,740       33,216,465         July       38,724,783       31,267,580         August       39,826,892       40,566,787         September       35,680,581       40,788,803         October       38,556,376       40,632,503         November       30,304,916       33,707,511         December       30,665,627       26,306,840         TOTAL - CALENDAR YEAR       418,994,818       411,999,484 |   |            |  |  |
|---|---|------------|--|--|
| January 32,106,252 37,522,125 33,837,404 February 26,301,416 26,786,559 28,148,960 March 32,377,979 35,176,663 34,875,643 April 35,406,758 34,793,543 June 37,934,740 33,216,465 July 38,724,783 31,267,580 August 39,826,892 40,566,787 September 35,680,581 40,788,803 October 38,556,376 40,632,503 November 30,304,916 33,707,511 December 30,665,627 26,306,840 TOTAL - CALENDAR YEAR 418,994,818 411,999,484  | Month   | 1939(a)    | 1938(a)  | 1937   |
| February       26,301,416       26,786,559       28,148,960         March       32,377,979       35,176,663       34,875,643         April       35,406,758       34,793,543         May       32,408,798       33,857,445         July       38,724,783       31,267,580         August       39,826,892       40,566,787         September       35,680,581       40,788,803         October       38,556,376       40,632,503         November       30,304,916       33,707,511         December       30,665,627       26,306,840         TOTAL - CALENDAR YEAR       418,994,818       411,999,484  |   | Pounds     | Pounds   | Pounds   |
| TOTAL - THREE MONTHS ending MARCH 90,785,647 99,485,347 96,862,007  | January February March April May June July August September October November December TOTAL - CALENDAR YEAR | 26,301,416 | 26,786,559<br>35,176,663<br>35,406,758<br>32,408,798<br>37,934,740<br>38,724,783<br>39,826,892<br>35,680,581<br>38,556,376<br>30,304,916<br>30,665,627 | 33,837,404<br>28,148,960<br>34,875,643<br>34,793,543<br>33,857,445<br>33,216,465<br>31,267,580<br>40,566,787<br>40,788,803<br>40,632,503<br>33,707,511<br>26,306,840 |
|   | TOTAL - THREE MONTHS ending MARCH   | 90,785,647 | 99,485,347   | 96,862,007   |

<sup>(</sup>a) Subject to revision.

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## IMPORTS OF LEAD(x) INTO GREAT BRITAIN DURING FEBRUARY and MARCH, 1939.

|  | FEBRUARY                                       |                                    | MARCH   |                                   |
|--|--|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | Pounds   | £                                  | Pounds  | £                                 |
| Burma Australia Canada Other British countries | 8,848,000<br>28,640,640<br>17,987,200<br>8,960 | 56,423<br>185,052<br>119,229<br>46 | 10,642,240<br>33,100,480<br>18,179,840<br>2,240 | 69,888<br>218,336<br>119,269<br>9 |
| United States                                  | 2,464,000                                      | 15,942<br>18,203                   | 1,314,000                                       | 8,812<br>42,776                   |
| TOTAL  | 60,748,800                                     | 394,895                            | 69,805,120                                      | 459,090                           |

(x) Unwrought lead in pigs, ingots, blocks, bars, slabs and cakes.

ZINC - During March the Canadian output of zinc amounted to 26,720,791 pounds compared with 25,372,817 pounds in February and 33,515,602 pounds in March, 1938. Production during the first quarter of 1939 aggregated 82,733,072 pounds; a year ago, 97,406,233 pounds were produced while in the first three months of 1937, the output was 70,089,214 pounds.

The average price of zinc on the London market in March was 2,856 cents per pound, in Canadian funds; valued at this price, the month's output in Canada was worth \$763,146. In February, zinc averaged 2.833 cents per pound and the value of the month's production was \$718,812.

An increase of 11.4 per cent was recorded in the exports of zino in March compared with the preceding month; the totals were 26,818,300 pounds and 24,075,700 pounds, respectively. During the first quarter of the current year 79,022,800 pounds of zino spelter were exported from Canada.

The American Bureau of Metal Statistics estimated the world output of zinc, in March, at 155,573 tons or 5,018 tons per day; in February, 140,548 tons were produced or 5,020 tons a day. The United States! zinc production in March amounted to 45,084 tons; this represented a daily rate of 1,454 tons as against the previous month's daily output of 1,415 tons. The American Zinc Institute reports that, in the United States, stocks of Prime Western zinc in the hands of producers increased 2,308 tons in March but, the High Grade division reported a reduction of 2,505 tons for the month, leaving a net decline of 207 tons. The United States stocks on March 31st totalled 127 985 tons.

#### PRODUCTION OF ZINC IN CANADA

| PRODUCTION OF ZINC IN CANADA  |  |   |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| Month   | 1939(a)                                | 1938(a)   | 1937  |  |  |  |
|   | Pounds                                 | Pounds  | Pounds  |  |  |  |
| January February March April May June July August September October November December TOTAL - CALENDAR YEAR | 30,639,464<br>25,372,817<br>26,720,791 | 34,865,607<br>29,025,024<br>33,515,602<br>33,724,256<br>35,163,472<br>31,549,136<br>28,367,785<br>29,591,363<br>29,415,685<br>29,415,685<br>29,188,430<br>34,810,834<br>31,932,095<br>381,149,289 | 19,198,520 19,926,075 30,964,619 32,552,773 30,839,919 35,309,776 36,433,162 37,867,371 30,147,486 37,251,611 30,307,731 29,538,546 |  |  |  |
| TOTAL - THREE MONTHS ending MARCH   | 82,733,072                             | 97,406,233  | 70,089,214  |  |  |  |

(a) Subject to revision.

IMPORTS OF ZINC(x) INTO GREAT BRITAIN DURING FEBRUARY and MARCH 1933.

|                               | FEBRUARY           |                | MARCH               |               |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|
|                               | Pounds             | £              | Pounds              | £             |
| Northern Rhodesia             | 1,064,000          | 6,699<br>4,130 | 1,774,080 2,016,000 | 11,151        |
| CanadaOther British countries | 22,055,040 374,080 | 137,521 2,362  | 18,401,600          | 113,861       |
| Germany                       | 1,926,400          | 12,280         | 89.600<br>8,117.760 | 604<br>49,999 |
| Other Foreign countries       | 3,068,800          | 19,368         | 1,402,240           | 8,897         |
| TOTAL                         | 36,789,760         | 228,799        | 32,025,280          | 198,616       |

(x) Unwrought zinc in ingots, blocks, bars, slabs and cakes.



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