

Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.
Minister of Trade and Commerce

A1-30-12-47

Price -
25 cents

Historical File Copy

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Ottawa - Canada

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CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION VALUE REACHES NEW HIGH IN 1947

(PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE FOR 1947)

Preliminary figures on Canada's mineral production in 1947 indicate an all-time high value of \$619.1 millions, an increase of 7.4 per cent over the previous record of \$566.7 millions in 1942. The production value for 1947 was 23 per cent greater than the \$502.8 millions in 1946. New records were established in the output values of fuels, structural materials and other non-metallics, but the metallics did not reach the level of the 1942 production.

The value of metals in 1947 at \$389.5 millions was nearly \$100 millions more than in 1946. This was due mainly to the increases in market prices for copper, lead, zinc and other base metals, the domestic ceiling prices of which were raised early in the year, and on which price controls were removed entirely in June, 1947. In comparison with figures for the preceding year, the tonnage of copper was up 23 per cent while the value increased 96 per cent to reach \$91.3 millions; the quantity of zinc was down nearly 12 per cent but the price increase raised the total valuation by 27 per cent to \$46.5 millions; lead production was down about 8.6 per cent but the smaller tonnage was worth \$44.3 millions or nearly twice that of 1946. Higher market prices also brought greater returns for some of the other base metals. In contrast, the average price for gold was lower in 1947 than in 1946, but some improvement in labour conditions resulted in an increase of 7.2 per cent in quantity and 2 per cent in total value to 3,035,161 ounces at \$106.2 millions. Silver, a by-product of most gold and base metal mines, showed a decline in both quantity and price, resulting in a yield of 11.8 million ounces worth \$8.5 millions.

Output of structural materials was greater than in any previous year, the 1947 value of \$72.7 millions being nearly 10 per cent above the \$66.1 millions in 1946. The quantities and values of most items were greater than ever before; cement shipments amounted to 11,899,716 barrels worth \$21.6 millions; lime production totalled 922,277 tons valued at \$7.3 millions; sand and gravel increased 14.6 per cent to \$17.8 millions; stone advanced about 10 per cent to \$12.3 millions, and clay products, which include brick, tile, etc., increased in value by 12.3 per cent to reach a new high of \$13.7 millions.

Coal production was lower in 1947 by some 2 million tons, but higher prices brought the total valuation to \$76.1 millions. Output of natural gas at 53.3 billion cubic feet worth \$14.3 millions was up 11.3 per cent in quantity and 17.8 per cent in value. Crude petroleum output amounted to 7.6 million barrels at \$14.7 millions.

Other non-metallics gained 22.8 per cent in value to \$51.7 millions compared with \$43.7 millions in the previous year. Asbestos advanced to 662,533 tons worth \$31.8 millions from 558,181 tons worth \$25.2 millions; a new record was made for gypsum in both quantity and value which were respectively 2,390,157 tons and \$4,388,745; salt increased to 731,515 tons from 537,985 tons, and sulphur declined to 196,780 tons from 234,771 tons.

Table 1 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1946 and 1947

		1946		1947 (Preliminary)	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
<u>Metallics</u>					
Antimony	lb.	642,145	96,322	1,145,000	382,430
Arsenic (As ₂ O ₃)	lb.	745,885	38,264	736,000	47,800
Bismuth	lb.	240,504	336,706	296,500	584,105
Cadmium	lb.	802,648	979,230	695,939	1,197,015
Calcium	lb.	53,548	68,720	700,370	735,282
Chromite	ton	3,110	61,123	2,000	38,000
Cobalt	lb.	73,900	70,215	478,000	808,000
Copper	lb.	367,936,875	46,632,093	450,587,079	91,317,157
Gold	fine oz.	2,832,554	104,096,359	3,035,161	106,230,635
Iron ore	ton	1,549,523	6,822,947	2,022,638	6,196,356
Lead	lb.	353,973,776	23,893,230	323,999,656	44,290,752
Magnesium	lb.	320,677	75,538	299,900	79,130
Molybdenite concentrates	lb.	736,400	295,640	729,609	295,142
Nickel	lb.	192,124,537	45,385,155	235,561,113	70,312,610
Palladium, rhodium, iridium, etc.	fine oz.	117,566	5,162,801	103,774	4,274,898
Platinum	fine oz.	121,771	7,672,791	94,540	5,580,696
Pitchblende products ...	...	...	-- Not Available --	...	...
Selenium	lb.	521,867	949,798	375,000	701,250
Silver	fine oz.	12,544,100	10,493,139	11,773,619	8,477,006
Tellurium	lb.	15,848	24,405	38,000	66,500
Tin	lb.	874,186	507,028	714,000	517,650
Titanium ore	ton	1,406	7,735	1,250	6,775
Tungsten concentrates ..	lb.	...	...	576,400	791,205
Zinc	lb.	470,620,360	36,755,540	414,779,823	46,579,774
Total Metallics .....	...	...	290,424,689	...	389,510,168
<u>Non-metallics</u>					
<u>Fuels</u>					
Coal	ton	17,806,450	75,361,481	15,691,976	76,143,753
Natural gas	M cu. ft.	47,900,484	12,165,050	53,310,382	14,317,843
Peat	ton	145	1,305	...	...
Petroleum	bbl.	7,585,555	14,989,052	7,632,204	14,701,319
Total Fuels .....	...	...	102,516,888	...	105,162,915

Table 1 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1946 and 1947 (Concluded)

		1946		1947 (Preliminary)	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
<u>Other Non-metallics</u>					
Asbestos	ton	558,181	25,240,562	662,533	31,847,135
Barite	ton	120,419	1,006,473	133,099	1,258,813
Corundum	ton	742	102,340	...	...
Diatomite	ton	90	2,532	102	2,676
Feldspar	ton	35,243	384,677	30,419	348,574
Fluorspar	ton	8,042	237,491	5,782	171,415
Garnet schist	ton	2	1,200	...	...
Graphite	ton	1,975	180,405	2,350	210,000
Grindstones	ton	295	17,450	300	19,500
Gypsum	ton	1,810,937	3,671,503	2,390,157	4,388,745
Iron oxides	ton	12,695	152,268	13,400	156,720
Magnesitic dolomite and brucite .....	...	...	1,225,593	...	1,201,457
Mica	lb.	8,720,669	119,039	5,215,617	189,624
Mineral waters	gal.	217,842	122,404	220,000	125,000
Nepheline syenite	ton	61,261	229,198	65,539	260,663
Peat moss	ton	96,839	2,395,649	86,204	2,493,320
Phosphate rock	ton	57	869	...	...
Quartz	ton	1,413,378	1,554,798	1,681,741	1,851,757
Salt	ton	537,985	3,626,165	731,515	3,693,769
Silica brick	M	2,902	197,804	3,183	307,460
Soapstone (including some talc)	ton	14,914	150,004	11,421	117,874
Sodium carbonate	ton	...	...	136	1,690
Sodium sulphate	ton	105,919	1,117,683	136,150	1,361,623
Sulphur	ton	234,771	1,784,666	196,780	1,601,372
Talc	ton	14,439	153,680	13,500	135,000
Total Other Non-metallics	...	...	43,754,453	...	51,744,187
<u>Clay Products and Other Structural Materials</u>					
Clay products (brick, tile, etc.) .....	...	...	12,207,367	...	13,702,696
Cement	bbl.	11,560,483	20,122,503	11,899,716	21,632,347
Lime	ton	840,799	7,074,940	922,277	7,315,335
Sand and gravel	ton	39,949,994	15,529,700	48,262,302	17,802,247
Stone	ton	8,056,260	11,185,711	8,758,364	12,263,534
Total Clay Products and Other Structural Materials .....	...	...	66,120,221	...	72,716,159
GRAND TOTAL .....	...	...	502,816,251	...	619,133,429

Table 2 - VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY CLASSES, 1933-1947

Year	Metallics	Coal, natural gas, peat and crude petroleum	Other non- metallics	Clay products and other structural materials	T O T A L
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1933	147,015,593	47,778,436	10,004,537	16,696,687	221,495,253
1934	194,110,968	54,262,099	10,501,762	19,286,761	278,161,590
1935	221,800,849	54,824,200	12,504,008	23,215,400	312,344,457
1936	259,425,194	59,983,320	16,740,117	25,770,741	361,919,372
1937	334,165,243	65,828,879	22,495,271	34,869,699	457,359,092
1938	323,075,154	64,803,294	20,066,123	33,878,666	441,823,237
1939	343,506,123	70,671,328	25,061,849	35,362,759	474,602,059
1940	382,503,012	78,837,874	26,011,498	42,472,651	529,825,035
1941	395,346,581	85,141,997	34,379,440	45,373,272	560,241,290
1942	392,192,452	92,169,291	36,677,122	45,729,807	566,768,672
1943	356,812,760	92,514,384	38,716,568	42,010,254	530,053,966
1944	308,292,161	97,291,007	37,251,009	42,984,937	485,819,114
1945	317,093,719	93,531,276	39,710,513	48,419,673	498,755,181
1946	290,424,689	102,516,888	43,754,453	66,120,221	502,816,251
1947 (*)..	389,510,168	105,162,915	51,744,187	72,716,159	619,133,429

(*) Preliminary.

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