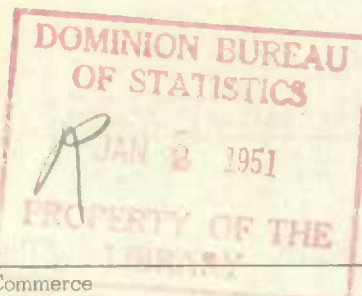




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PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION, 1950

Note: This information not to be released until January 2, 1951.

Production by Canada's mining industry exceeded the billion dollar mark in 1950 to culminate a remarkable half century of progress. Fifty years ago, in 1901, the value of all minerals produced was slightly over \$65 millions; by 1915 this annual value had been doubled, in 1928 it passed the quarter billion mark and in 1940 it exceeded half a billion dollars for the first time. The total of \$1,040.9 millions in 1950 represented a gain of 15 per cent over the 1949 value of \$901.1 millions. The increase was quite general throughout the list of products but the principal gains were in crude petroleum, asbestos, gold, zinc, copper and nickel. For each of these, except gold, the 1950 value was the highest on record.

The estimated value of all metals was \$620.9 millions or 15.2 per cent more than in 1949. During the early part of 1950, the trend in base metal prices was downward but later advances yielded higher averages than in the previous year. Copper production was down slightly in tonnage but was up 17 per cent in value, nickel declined 4.3 per cent in quantity but advanced 14.5 per cent in value, zinc advanced 8 per cent in tonnage and 27.5 per cent in dollars, while lead was up 6 per cent in tonnage and off 2.8 per cent in value.

Gold, worth \$168.5 millions in 1950, was again the leading mineral product in regards to value of output. On October 1, 1950, the Canadian dollar was permitted to find its own level in relation to the United States dollar, this resulting in an average price of \$38.04 per troy ounce in Canadian funds in 1950, compared with \$36.00 per ounce in 1949. The quantity of gold recovered last year was 7.3 per cent greater than in 1949.

Substantial increases in Alberta's crude petroleum production was largely responsible for the increase of 9.8 per cent in the value of mineral fuels to \$201.7 millions. Crude petroleum in 1950 totalled 29.1 million barrels compared with 7.6 million barrels in 1946, the year preceding the discovery of the Leduc field. Coal production remained about the same as in 1949 with a value of \$110 million.

Non-metallics or industrial minerals were valued at \$92.1 millions compared with \$64.6 in 1949. Asbestos production reached a new high of 877,650 tons at \$64.9 millions. The tonnage of gypsum at 3,589,000 tons was up 19 per cent and its value exceeded \$6.1 millions. Salt of all grades was valued at \$6.3 millions, an increase of 14 per cent. Fluorspar, the greater portion from Newfoundland, had a value of \$1.5 millions which was slightly lower than in 1949. Sulphur in the form of pyrite and sulphuric acid had an estimated value of \$2.3 millions.

Output of structural materials was greater than ever. Shipments of cement amounted to 16.7 million barrels valued at \$35.7 millions. Lime was valued at \$12.3 millions. Clay products were worth \$20.9 millions. Stone for buildings, monuments, railway ballast, etc. had a value of \$22.6 millions, and sand and gravel, mainly for highway construction, totalled \$34.5 millions.

Table 1 - VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY CLASSES, 1940-1950

Year	Metallics	Mineral fuels	Other non- metallics	Clay products and other structural materials	T O T A L
			(dollars)		
1940 ....	382,440,214	78,837,874	26,074,296	42,472,651	529,825,035
1941 ....	395,193,386	85,141,997	34,532,635	45,373,272	560,241,290
1942 ....	391,540,411	92,169,291	37,329,163	45,729,807	566,768,672
1943 ....	356,558,751	92,514,384	38,967,577	42,010,254	530,053,966
1944 ....	308,111,295	97,291,007	37,431,875	42,984,937	485,819,114
1945 ....	316,962,810	93,531,276	39,841,422	48,419,673	498,755,181
1946 ....	290,386,425	102,516,888	43,792,717	66,120,221	502,816,251
1947 ....	395,069,530	110,481,207	54,742,453	84,576,785	644,869,975
1948 ....	488,151,055	159,736,260	67,234,304	105,127,246	820,248,865
1949 ....	538,967,258	183,654,473	64,585,216	113,903,079	901,110,026
1950 ....	620,910,060	201,726,457	92,087,429	126,163,665	1,040,887,611

Table 2 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY PROVINCES, 1948-1950

Province	1 9 4 8		1 9 4 9		1 9 5 0	
	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent
Newfoundland .....	...	...	27,583,615	3.1	25,961,966	2.5
Nova Scotia .....	56,400,245	6.9	56,092,830	6.2	60,110,354	5.8
New Brunswick ....	7,003,285	0.9	7,134,009	0.8	12,601,370	1.2
Quebec .....	152,038,867	18.5	165,021,513	18.3	217,665,146	20.9
Ontario .....	294,239,673	35.9	323,368,644	35.9	362,954,236	34.9
Manitoba .....	26,081,349	3.2	23,839,638	2.6	32,694,229	3.1
Saskatchewan .....	34,517,208	4.2	36,054,536	4.0	36,182,635	3.5
Alberta .....	93,211,229	11.3	113,728,425	12.6	134,597,796	12.9
British Columbia ..	148,223,614	18.1	136,385,911	15.1	142,135,184	13.6
Northwest Terri- tories (*) .....	4,267,485	0.5	6,801,729	0.8	8,102,985	0.8
Yukon .....	4,265,910	0.5	5,099,176	0.6	7,881,710	0.8
TOTAL .....	820,248,865	100.0	901,110,026	100.0	1,040,887,611	100.0

(\*) Excluding pitchblende products.



Table 3 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1949 AND 1950

		1949		1950	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
<u>Metallics</u>					
Antimony .....	lb.	158,288	61,020	650,000	217,750
Bismuth .....	lb.	102,913	210,972	223,004	501,759
Cadmium .....	lb.	846,541	1,735,409	834,218	1,925,386
Calcium .....	lb.	520,609	1,041,218	281,800	338,160
Chromite .....	ton	361	7,148	626,400	1,039,910
Cobalt .....	lb.	619,065	952,469	523,828,637	122,552,157
Copper .....	lb.	526,913,632	104,719,151	4,430,612	168,540,479
Gold .....	fine oz.	4,123,518	148,446,648	4,950	12,078
Indium .....	fine oz.	689	1,550	3,617,174	21,083,613
Iron ore .....	ton	3,675,096	21,203,907	339,776,962	49,097,771
Lead .....	lb.	319,549,865	50,488,879	3,540,000	831,900
Magnesium .....	lb.	...	...	103,508	60,035
Molybdenite (MoS <sub>2</sub> ) .....	lb.	...	...	246,113,800	113,564,805
Nickel .....	lb.	257,379,216	99,173,289	148,342	13,596,644
Palladium, rhodium, iridium, etc. ...	fine oz.	182,233	8,289,915	121,100	9,970,163
Platinum .....	fine oz.	153,784	11,603,002	356,200	862,004
Selenium .....	lb.	318,225	652,361	22,416,150	18,116,732
Silver .....	fine oz.	17,641,493	13,098,808	48,900	92,910
Tellurium .....	lb.	11,692	21,046	796,000	827,840
Tin .....	lb.	619,117	633,047	100,500	261,500
Titanium ore .....	ton	540	2,892	3,000	2,900
Tungsten (WO <sub>3</sub> ) ...	lb.	252,380	252,380	622,450,891	97,413,564
Zinc .....	lb.	576,524,097	76,372,147	...	620,910,060
Total Metallics .	...	...	538,967,258	...	...
<u>Non-metallics</u>					
<u>Fuels</u>					
Coal .....	ton	19,120,046	110,915,121	19,000,000	110,042,000
Natural gas .....	M cu.ft.	60,457,177	11,620,302	71,274,258	7,554,823
Peat .....	ton	56	560	68	680
Petroleum .....	bbl.	21,305,348	61,118,490	29,145,900	84,128,954
Total Fuels ....	...	...	183,654,473	...	201,726,457
<u>Other Non-metallics</u>					
Arsenious oxide ..	lb.	526,645	26,332	540,000	32,000
Asbestos .....	ton	574,906	39,746,072	877,650	64,931,231
Barite .....	ton	47,138	557,662	58,998	599,172
Diatomite .....	ton	60	1,703	45	1,462
Feldspar .....	ton	36,948	428,502	32,173	408,379
Fluorspar .....	ton	64,477	1,592,908	65,155	1,530,086
Graphite .....	ton	2,147	212,496	3,562	357,330
Grindstones .....	ton	195	12,450	160	10,250
Gypsum .....	ton	3,014,249	5,423,690	3,589,583	6,113,416



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Table 3 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1949 AND 1950 (CONCLUDED)

	1949		1950	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		\$		\$
<u>Other Non-metallics</u> (Concluded)				
Iron oxides ..... ton	13,625	207,887	11,522	194,327
Magnesite and brucite .. ...	...	1,536,200	...	1,473,377
Mica ..... lb.	3,490,556	108,458	3,601,684	105,957
Mineral waters ..... gal.	306,691	146,240	302,500	145,400
Nepheline syenite ..... ton	78,783	623,002	63,385	823,305
Phosphate rock ..... ton	20	291	129	1,065
Peat moss ..... ton	80,249	2,376,849	68,639	2,305,191
Quartz ..... ton	1,722,476	1,588,531	1,713,377	1,791,876
Salt ..... ton	749,015	5,566,725	792,058	6,343,558
Silica brick ..... M	3,663	453,797	3,416	451,082
Soapstone and talc ..... ton	26,922	320,793	27,200	344,000
Sodium carbonate ..... ton	47	513	...	...
Sodium sulphate ..... ton	120,259	1,614,731	133,235	1,797,415
Sulphur ..... ton	261,871	2,039,384	317,530	2,327,550
Total Other Non-metallics ..... ..	...	64,585,216	...	92,087,429
<u>Clay Products and Other Structural Materials</u>				
Clay products (brick, tile, etc.) ..... ..	...	17,981,709	...	20,953,590
Cement ..... bbl.	15,916,564	32,901,936	16,698,487	35,693,049
Lime ..... ton	1,018,823	11,309,820	1,147,428	12,321,914
Sand and gravel ..... ton	63,356,308	31,181,541	68,507,420	34,537,499
Stone ..... ton	13,928,039	20,528,073	17,576,950	22,657,613
Total Clay Products and Other Structural Materials ..... ..	...	113,903,079	...	126,163,665
GRAND TOTAL ..... ..	...	901,110,026	...	1,040,887,611

NOTE: The above figures do not include data for pitchblende products.

NOTE - This report was prepared in the Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Section.