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PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION, 1952

Note: This information not to be released until January 2, 1953.

Mineral production in Canada during 1952 was valued at \$1,278,000,000 according to a preliminary estimate prepared by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. This output value is the highest on record, being \$33 millions or 2.6 per cent above last year's total of \$1,245,000,000. The outstanding gain was for crude petroleum which was \$27 millions above last year's value, but asbestos and cement were each up about \$7 millions and iron ore about \$3 millions. In contrast, the output values for the principal metals, including gold, nickel, copper, zinc and lead, were all below the corresponding totals for 1951.

The total output value of all metals was \$728 millions in 1952 compared with \$745 millions in 1951, a drop of 2.3 per cent. In volume of output the gains outnumbered the losses but these advances were not sufficient to offset the price declines during the year. The tonnage of zinc was up 12 per cent to 382,000 tons but the total value declined nearly 2 per cent. Lead production increased 4 per cent to 165,000 tons but the value dropped 8 per cent. Output of nickel was greater by 1.5 per cent at 140,000 tons but the value was slightly lower than for last year. Copper declined 4.5 per cent in quantity to 258,000 tons and the increase in average price during the year was not sufficient to offset this decline, the value being down by nearly 1 per cent.

Gold production totalled 4,419,000 ounces compared with 4,392,000 ounces in 1951 but the value was down to \$151 millions from \$162 millions for last year. The price of gold at the Royal Canadian Mint in Canadian dollars, ranged from \$35.38 to \$33.58 per troy ounce; the average being \$34.27 compared with \$36.85 in 1951 and \$38.05 in 1950.

The value of mineral fuels rose 13 per cent to \$262 millions in 1952. Output of crude petroleum increased to 61 million barrels at \$143 millions from 48 million barrels at \$117 millions in 1951. Natural gas rose 10 per cent in quantity and 30 per cent in value to 87 trillion cubic feet at \$9.3 millions. Coal production declined 6.5 per cent to 17.4 million tons but the value of \$109 millions was about the same as in the previous year.

The non-metallics group was led by asbestos with an output value of \$88.8 millions. The tonnage of asbestos shipped was slightly less than in 1951 due to decreased demand for short fibres, but the increase in the price of the longer fibres brought the total value to a new high. Barite and fluorspar showed gains in output, while feldspar and mica declined. Sulphur in the form of pyrite, sulphuric acid and elemental sulphur increased 18.6 per cent in quantity to 441,000 tons; pyrite from new sources in Quebec and sulphur from natural gas in Alberta contributed to this increase. Production of gypsum, salt, nepheline syenite and other non-metallics was about the same as for last year.

The value of the structural materials, except lime, continued to rise. Three new cement plants, one in each of the provinces of Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Quebec, contributed to the record high quantity of over 18 million barrels. Clay products, which include brick, tile, sewer pipe, etc., increased 4 per cent in value to \$24.4 millions. Stone for buildings, monuments, railway ballast, etc., was valued at \$29.2 millions. Sand and gravel, mainly for highway construction, totalled \$49.1 millions.

Table 1 - VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY CLASSES, 1943-1952

Year	Metallics	Mineral fuels	Other non-metallics	Clay products and other structural materials	T O T A L
(dollars)					
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	617,238,340	201,193,957	94,721,564	132,296,212	1,045,450,073
1951	745,588,728	232,854,093	115,706,983	151,333,791	1,245,483,595
1952	727,916,221	262,098,250	124,304,401	164,046,644	1,278,365,516

Table 2 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY PROVINCES, 1950-1952

Province	1 9 5 0		1 9 5 1		1 9 5 2	
	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent
Newfoundland	25,824,047	2.5	32,410,443	2.6	32,894,734	2.6
Nova Scotia	59,482,173	5.7	59,727,256	4.8	63,541,473	5.0
New Brunswick ...	12,756,975	1.2	9,564,617	0.8	12,035,360	1.0
Quebec	220,176,517	21.0	255,530,071	20.5	267,259,931	20.9
Ontario	366,801,525	35.1	444,667,203	35.7	438,535,875	34.3
Manitoba	32,691,173	3.1	30,045,992	2.4	24,897,069	1.9
Saskatchewan	35,983,923	3.4	51,032,953	4.1	48,646,557	3.8
Alberta	135,758,940	13.0	188,144,211	13.5	197,333,166	15.4
British Columbia..	138,888,205	13.3	176,272,932	14.1	172,907,416	13.5
Northwest Territories (A)	8,050,899	0.8	8,288,747	0.7	9,033,714	0.7
Yukon	9,035,696	0.9	9,793,170	0.8	11,276,221	0.9
TOTAL	1,045,450,073	100.0	1,245,483,595	100.0	1,278,365,516	100.0

(A) Excluding pitchblende products.

Table 3 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1951 and 1952

Unit of measure	1951		1952	
	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
<u>Metallics</u>				
Antimony	lb. 6,702,164	1,436,713	2,500,000	1,125,000
Bismuth	lb. 230,298	543,504	180,217	405,488
Cadmium	lb. 1,326,920	3,556,145	1,004,623	2,971,511
Cobalt	lb. 951,607	1,999,612	1,303,400	2,806,000
Copper	lb. 539,941,589	149,026,216	515,413,485	147,849,770
Gold	fine oz. 4,392,751	161,872,873	4,419,570	151,458,664
Indium	fine oz. 582	1,368	400	900
Iron ore	ton 4,680,510	31,141,112	5,205,058	34,186,286
Iron ingots	ton 15,554	777,142	31,500	1,302,000
Lead	lb. 316,462,751	58,229,146	329,758,679	53,321,978
Magnesium and calcium ..	...	3,618,219	...	4,613,995
Molybdenite (MoS ₂)	lb. 381,596	228,958	497,735	298,641
Nickel	lb. 275,806,272	151,269,994	280,013,300	150,908,900
Palladium, rhodium, iridium, etc.	fine oz. 164,905	7,950,107	149,600	7,311,407
Platinum	fine oz. 153,483	14,542,515	120,300	10,736,775
Selenium	lb. 382,603	1,239,633	265,600	841,100
Silver	fine oz. 23,125,825	21,865,467	24,375,853	20,366,026
Tellurium	lb. 8,913	16,400	13,700	30,200
Tin	lb. 346,718	494,073	212,000	254,400
Titanium ore	ton 1,674	9,790	51	456
Tungsten (WO ₃)	lb. 2,833	7,098	1,222,262	3,666,786
Zinc	lb. 682,224,335	135,762,643	764,112,772	133,459,938
Total Metallics .....	...	745,588,728	...	727,916,221
<u>Non-metallics</u>				
<u>Fuels</u>				
Coal	ton 18,586,823	109,038,835	17,360,000	109,420,000
Natural gas	M cu.ft. 79,460,667	7,158,920	87,591,200	9,305,610
Peat	ton 50	1,100	10	100
Petroleum, crude	bbl. 47,615,534	116,655,238	60,864,500	143,372,540
Total Fuels .....	...	232,854,093	...	262,098,250
<u>Other Non-metallics</u>				
Arsenious oxide	lb. 2,353,362	129,435	1,530,000	98,000
Asbestos	ton 973,198	81,584,345	966,382	88,823,271
Barite	ton 98,113	1,131,917	119,333	1,364,703
Diatomite	ton 92	3,148	25	1,100
Feldspar	ton 40,749	551,097	21,760	346,048
Fluorspar	ton 74,211	2,189,875	83,353	2,503,167
Graphite	ton 1,569	231,167	2,030	255,426
Grindstones	ton 60	6,000	12	720
Gypsum	ton 3,802,692	5,880,853	3,592,917	6,073,389



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Table 3 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1951 AND 1952 (CONCLUDED)

Unit of measure	1951		1952	
	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
<u>Other Non-metallics</u> (Concluded)				
Iron oxides ton	13,342	262,277	11,847	226,037
Magnesitic-dolomite and brucite ★ ..... ..	...	2,437,773	...	2,914,272
Mica lb.	4,961,508	447,650	1,990,827	139,884
Mineral waters gal.	325,300	146,971	322,500	145,450
Nepheline syenite ... ton	81,108	1,114,943	85,500	1,116,500
Phosphate rock ton	6	94	...	...
Peat moss ton	76,809	2,433,008	77,258	2,372,168
Quartz ton	1,904,885	2,258,468	1,783,267	2,467,267
Salt ton	964,525	7,905,977	992,007	7,507,315
Silica brick M	3,510	465,229	3,506	586,413
Soapstone and talc . ton	24,846	283,624	26,048	297,516
Sodium sulphate ton	192,371	2,383,770	156,308	1,709,140
Sulphur ton	371,790	3,120,785	441,271	4,096,615
Titanium dioxide ... ton	14,123	738,577	42,000	1,260,000
Total Other Non- metallics ..... ..	...	115,706,983	...	124,304,401
<u>Clay Products and Other Structural Materials</u>				
Clay products (brick, tile, etc.) ..... ..	...	23,527,656	...	24,418,693
Cement bbl.	17,007,812	40,446,288	18,350,964	47,623,129
Lime ton	1,241,041	14,082,520	1,209,653	13,683,485
Sand and gravel ton	92,972,821	44,627,559	96,470,881	49,121,048
Stone ton	18,676,706	28,649,768	17,811,808	29,200,289
Total Clay Products and Other Structural Materials ..... ..	...	151,333,791	...	164,046,644
GRAND TOTAL ..... ..	...	1,245,483,595	...	1,278,365,516

★ Includes some magnesium metal.

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