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Memorandum

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION 1957

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Again the value of Canada's mineral production exceeded two billion dollars, in 1957 according to a preliminary estimate prepared by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. After a decade of remarkable increases in the valuation of the mineral output there was only a modest gain of 2.5 per cent in 1957 compared with 1956. Although the shipments of uranium oxide increased \$85 million to reach nearly \$131 million, there was a counterbalancing decline of \$93 million in copper, \$26 million in zinc and \$6 million in lead. Crude petroleum continued as the leading mineral commodity with a value of about \$445 million, nickel moved up to second place with \$261 million, copper slipped to third with less than \$200 million.

Metals declined in value to \$1,136 million in 1957 from \$1,148 million in 1956. Nickel tonnage was up 5.4 per cent to 188,000 tons. Several uranium mines came in production during the year thus nearly tripling the output. Copper suffered a drastic reduction in the price per pound, from average of 41.41 cents in 1956 to an average of 28.93 cents in 1957. The price of lead and zinc also declined. Iron ore shipments from Quebec increased but Ontario mines shipped less thus Canada's total tonnage, at 22 million short tons, was about the same as in the preceding year. Gold production remained at a level of about 4.4 million ounces. Due to the relatively high premium on the Canadian dollar, the average price of gold was \$33.54 per ounce.

The value of non-metallic minerals was \$167 million which was \$7 million more than in 1956. There were over a million tons of asbestos which were worth \$106 million. Barite output declined to 216,000 tons. Fluorspar tonnage was down due to a mine closing in Newfoundland. Gypsum tonnage of 4.5 million was down from 4.9 million. Quebec's lithia amounted to nearly 2,700 tons. Nepheline syenite which was all mined in Ontario increased to over 200,000 tons. Over \$15 million worth of salt was shipped. Titanium dioxide in slag was valued at \$7.5 million.

Mineral fuels were valued at \$555.5 million an increase of 7.0% over the preceding year. Due to the limited market the volume of oil from Alberta wells decreased to about 137 million barrels, but the increase in the price per barrel made the total value higher than in 1956. Saskatchewan's output of 36.7 million barrels was up 75 per cent. There were signs that Manitoba's oil production was levelling off at 6 million barrels. There was 206,813 million cubic feet of natural gas utilized. Gas which was wasted or flared was not included in the compilation. Gas in British Columbia increased from 187,846 thousand cubic feet to 1,217,214 thousand cubic feet. There was less Canadian coal shipped in 1957 than in any year since 1933.

Building brick, tile, etc. were in lessened demand as the house building industry slowed down. New cement plants aided in raising the total shipments of cement to a new high of over 6 million tons. More lime was shipped to chemical and other industrial users than in previous years. Sand and gravel used for highways, railroad ballast and concrete aggregate amounted to 145 million tons. There were about 33 million tons of stone of various sizes, pulverized, crushed, and block, shipped in 1957.

Table 1 - VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY CLASSES, 1948-1957

Year	Metallics	Non-metallics	Mineral fuels	Structural materials	T O T A L
			(dollars)		
1948	488,287,835	67,097,524	159,736,260	105,127,246	820,248,865
1949	538,967,258	64,585,216	183,654,473	113,903,079	901,110,026
1950	617,238,340	94,721,564	201,193,957	132,296,212	1,045,450,073
1951	745,877,561	115,418,150	232,854,093	151,333,791	1,245,483,595
1952	728,458,160	124,493,256	263,582,319	168,808,618	1,285,342,353
1953	709,920,510	124,999,607	314,181,168	187,202,218	1,336,303,503
1954	802,401,423	128,038,507	352,959,465	204,982,696	1,488,382,091
1955	1,007,839,501	144,920,841	414,318,015	228,232,439	1,795,310,796
1956	1,146,349,595	160,341,599	518,761,191	259,453,169	2,084,905,554
1957	1,136,411,385	167,289,834	555,500,117	274,739,751	2,133,941,087

Table 2 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY PROVINCES, 1955-1957

Province	1 9 5 5		1 9 5 6		1 9 5 7	
	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent
Newfoundland	68,462,956	3.8	84,349,006	4.0	76,244,758	3.6
Nova Scotia	67,133,539	3.7	66,092,274	3.2	65,434,475	3.1
New Brunswick	15,759,744	0.9	18,258,302	0.9	23,249,559	1.1
Quebec	357,010,045	19.9	422,464,410	20.2	384,465,152	18.0
Ontario	583,954,682	32.5	650,823,362	31.2	739,219,218	34.6
Manitoba	62,018,231	3.5	67,909,407	3.3	61,299,092	2.9
Saskatchewan	85,150,128	4.7	122,744,698	5.9	161,487,032	7.6
Alberta	325,974,326	18.2	411,171,898	19.7	411,960,822	19.3
British Columbia..	189,524,574	10.6	203,277,828	9.8	174,763,908	8.2
Northwest Territories	25,597,821	1.4	22,157,935	1.0	21,965,933	1.0
Yukon	14,724,750	0.8	15,656,434	0.8	13,851,138	0.8
TOTAL	1,795,310,796	100.0	2,084,905,554	100.0	2,133,941,087	100.0

Table 2 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1956 and 1957

Unit of measure	1956		1957		
	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$	
<u>Metallics</u>					
Antimony	lb.	2,140,432	687,527	1,411,000	353,697
Bismuth	lb.	285,861	544,900	276,791	536,599
Cadmium	lb.	2,339,421	3,977,016	2,340,015	3,978,025
Calcium	lb.	394,900	515,305	66,341	83,588
Cobalt	lb.	3,516,670	9,065,493	3,736,178	8,081,226
Copper	lb.	709,720,590	292,958,091	692,053,656	199,543,377
Gold	troy oz.	4,383,863	151,024,080	4,436,101	148,786,827
Indium	troy oz.	363,192	795,390	385,000	847,000
Iron ore	ton	22,348,278	160,362,118	22,386,993	155,549,111
Iron, remelt	ton	159,874	7,996,897	186,700	6,148,000
Lead	lb.	377,708,904	58,582,651	375,819,451	52,464,395
Magnesium	lb.	19,212,298	6,079,890	16,073,467	5,188,956
Manganese ore	ton	...	1,900	-	-
Molybdenum	lb.	841,647	955,828	874,600	1,145,726
Nickel	lb.	357,030,311	222,204,860	376,265,731	261,253,209
Palladium, iridium, etc.	troy oz.	163,451	6,681,098	213,285	7,726,930
Platinum	troy oz.	151,357	15,725,992	196,077	17,490,000
Selenium	lb.	330,389	4,460,252	352,871	3,763,500
Silver	troy oz.	28,431,847	25,497,681	30,138,447	26,319,907
Tellurium	lb.	7,867	13,767	34,503	63,981
Tin	lb.	756,934	670,441	809,000	764,505
Titanium ore	ton	2,310	16,561	10,485	54,638
Tungsten (WO ₃)	lb.	2,271,437	6,362,368	1,992,840	5,579,952
Uranium (U ₃ O ₈)	lb.	4,581,060	45,732,145	12,875,799	130,911,234
Zinc	lb.	845,285,125	125,437,344	824,617,875	99,696,301
Total metallics .....	...	...	1,148,349,595	...	1,136,411,385
<u>Non-metallics</u>					
Arsenious oxide	lb.	1,790,381	77,612	3,385,368	111,717
Asbestos	ton	1,014,249	99,859,969	1,061,419	106,395,200
Barite	ton	320,835	3,031,034	216,325	2,461,538
Diatomite	ton	2	40	168	3,360
Feldspar	ton	18,153	364,849	20,567	390,804
Fluorspar	ton	140,071	3,407,582	68,463	1,798,308
Gypsum	ton	4,895,811	7,260,236	4,500,664	6,256,349
Iron oxides	ton	8,803	186,225	7,700	182,500
Lithia	lb.	4,789,360	2,643,950	5,373,000	2,955,150
Magnesitic-dolomite and brucite .....	...	...	2,783,181	...	2,695,190
Mica	lb.	1,843,811	95,666	1,427,418	95,798
Mineral waters	gal.	292,526	149,867	302,000	151,700
Nepheline syenite	ton	180,006	2,574,140	202,942	2,716,954
Peat, moss	ton	128,054	4,240,714	132,535	4,304,694
Pyrite, pyrrhotite	ton	1,046,740	4,538,785	1,239,606	5,018,610



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Table 3 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1956 and 1957 (Concluded)

Unit of measure	1956		1957	
	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
<u>Non-metallics</u> (Concluded)				
Quartz ton	2,142,234	3,036,543	2,114,134	3,052,803
Salt ton	1,590,804	12,144,475	1,760,042	15,074,050
Silica brick M	5,799	736,817	4,288	646,038
Soapstone and talc * ... ton	29,326	365,226	33,053	433,401
Sodium sulphate ton	181,063	2,838,186	157,653	2,554,300
Sulphur in smelter gas . ton	236,088	2,323,590	246,337	2,463,370
Titanium dioxide ton	157,374	7,682,911	185,500	7,528,000
Total non-metallics .. ...	...	160,341,599	...	167,289,834
* Includes pyrophyllite.				
<u>Mineral - Fuels</u>				
Coal ton	14,915,610	95,349,763	13,183,175	89,892,750
Natural gas M cu.ft.	169,152,586	16,849,556	206,213,624	20,822,797
Peat ton	-	-	-	-
Petroleum, crude bbl.	171,981,413	406,561,872	181,562,934	444,784,570
Total fuels ..... ...	...	518,761,191	...	555,500,117
<u>Structural Materials</u>				
Clay products (brick, tile, etc.) ..... ...	...	37,784,980	...	34,697,605
Cement bbl.	5,021,683	75,233,321	6,056,038	93,764,545
Lime ton	1,295,699	15,667,598	1,379,871	16,563,493
Sand and gravel ton	148,801,268	81,957,352	145,191,462	84,051,708
Stone ton	33,257,318	48,809,918	32,799,202	45,662,400
Total structural materials ..... ...	...	259,453,169	...	274,739,751
GRAND TOTAL ..... ...	...	2,084,905,554	...	2,133,941,087