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## CANADA

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MINING, METALLURGICAL & CHEMICAL STATISTICS

## THE

# FELDSPAR & QUARTZ MINING INDUSTRY

IN

CANADA

1946

(including data relating to Nepheline-Syenite)



OTTAWA 1948

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Herbert Marshall W. H. Losee H. McLeod

# THE FELDSPAR AND QUARTZ MINING INDUSTRY, 1946

Owing to the very close physical association of these minerals in many Canadian deposits (pegmatites), it has been found difficult for some operators to make a separation of all data pertaining to the mining of each individual mineral and, for this reason, the general statistics relating to capital, employment, fuel and electricity, etc., have been combined in this report. Since 1936, corresponding statistics relating to the production of nepheline syenite have been included with those pertaining to the commercial production of feldspar and quartz.

Production in 1946, as measured by the sales of feldspar, nepheline syenite and quartz, was valued at \$2,168,673 which was the highest recorded amount to date. Sales in the preceding year, 1945, amounted to \$2,093,880.

Feldspar production came entirely from Ontario and Quebec; nepheline syenite came from Ontario only, and quartz (silica) in various forms was produced in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

In 1946 there were 34 active firms in the industry, but only 30 of these properties made shipments during the year. The industry employed 517 persons to whom \$876,034 was paid in salaries and wages. The cost of fuel, electricity, process supplies, containers and freight amounted to \$440,701 which if deducted from the gross output value, yields a net value of \$1,727,972 compared with \$1,626,590 in 1945.

Table 1 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS OF THE FELDSPAR AND QUARTZ MINING INDUSTRY (x), 1939-1946

Year	Number of shipping mines	Average number of em- ployees	Total salaries and wages	Cost of purchased fuel and electricity at works	Cost of process supplies	Gross value of ship-ments f.o.b. works
			\$	\$	\$	\$
1939	38	338	330,170	79,114	99,607	1,352,671
1940	41	400	377,254	76,134	138,383	1,508,999
1941	35	506	610,489	91,165	159,818	1,838,054
1942	34	533	782,903	124,100	287,928	1,998,996
1943	34	535	768,199	134,247	322,605	2,138,229
1944	41	529	772.385	166.501	241,400	2,104,030
1945	27	483	767,517	180,799	220,873	2,093,880
1946	30	517	876,034	161,208	180,207	2,168,673

(x) Includes nepheline syenite.

Table 2 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS OF THE FELDSPAR AND QUARTZ MINING INDUSTRY. 1945 and 1946

	Qu	ebec	Other Provi	nces (b)(c)
	 1945	1946	1945	1946
Number of active firms (a)	13	17	18	17
Number of shipping mines	12	15	15	15
Number of employees: Administration	36	23	39	22
Workmen	231	248	165	224
Total	267	271	204	246
Salaries and wages : Salaries	\$ 62,064	54,451	65,012	52,454
Wages	\$ 340,843	389,165	299,598	379,964
Total	\$ 402,907	443,616	364,610	432,418
Selling value of products (gross)	\$ 873,321	943,109	1,220,559	1,225,564
Cost of fuel and purchased electricity	\$ 91,166	91,672	89,633	69,536
Cost of process supplies, freight and containers	\$ 106,855	140,173	179,636	139,320
Net value of sales	\$ 675,300	711,264	951,290	1,016,708

<sup>(</sup>a) Small shippers whose production is recorded from consumers' returns are sometimes not included in the total.

(b) Includes data relating to nepheline syenite.

NOTE: This report was prepared by Mr. A. R. Deir, Mining Statistician.

<sup>(</sup>c) Includes plants in Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia

Table 3 - NUMBER OF WORKMEN, BY MONTHS, 1946

	G	uebec			Ont	ario	N	GANADA
Month	Surface	Mil	1	Sur	face	Underground	Mill ,	TOTAL
	Male	Female	Male	Male	Female	Male	Male	(x)
January	130	1	100	40	3	41	24	351
February	1.24	1	108	54	3	42	25	369
March	112	1.	97	57	3	48	28	358
April	112	1.	98	122	3	54	26	431
May	146	1	108	108	3	87	34	505
June	163	1	106	114	3	82	34	519
July	155	1	108	162	3	92	34	567
August	150	1	101	146	3 .	97	37	550
September	162	1	98	140	3	82	34	522
October	187	1	100	125	3	96	36	550
November	180	1.	96	119	3	66	26	507
December	141	1	98	102	3	57	26	452
Average	146	1	101	107	3	71	30	472

<sup>(</sup>x) Includes a few employees in Nova Scotia in some months.

Table 4 - FUEL AND ELECTRICITY USED, 1946 (b)

		CAN	A D A	Ontario	o (a)	Quel	0 0 C
Kind	Unit of measure	Quantity	Cost at works	Quantity	Cost at	Quantity	Cost at
			\$		\$		\$
Bituminous coal -							
Canadian	short ton	1,347	13,779	245	3,059	1,102	10,720
Foreign	short ton	2,988	23,840	2,711	20,704	277	3,136
Anthracite coal -							
United States	short ton	28	. 570			28	570
Coke	short ton	3	42			3	42
Gasoline	Imp. gal.	108,044	32,241	58,933	17,115	49,111	15,126
Kerosene	Imp. gal.	294	63	294	63	***	
Fuel oil	Imp. gal.	538,289	59,169	180,524	21,143	357,765	38,026
Wood	cord	267	2,244	2	6	265	2,238
Gas: Manufactured	M cu. ft.						
Other fuel							
Electricity purchased	K.W.H.	3,851,800	29,260	1,755,520	7,446	2,096,280	21,814
TOTAL			161,208	***	69,536		91,672
Electricity generated for							
own use	K.W.H.	2,588,033		107,733	* * *	2,480,300	

Table 5 - POWER EQUIPMENT, 1946

a a and whi am	C	uebec	Ontario (x)		
escription	Number	Horse power	Number	Horse powe	
Ordinarily in Use					
team engines			8	508	
team turbines					
iesel engines	6	1,165	14	1,067	
ther internal combustion engines	26	1,349	20	853	
lectric motors operated by purchased power	57	1,205	53	1,130	
lectric motors operated by establishment power	120	1,184	20	124	
tationary boilers		***	9	825	
otor-generator sets	1	3	7	<b>26</b> 6	
In Reserve or Idle					
team engines		* * *			
team turbines		* * *			
iesel engines					
ther internal combustion engines	7	727	3	155	
lectric motors operated by purchased power	6	87	1	50	
lectric motors operated by establishment power	16	99	1	5	

<sup>(</sup>a) Includes data for 1 property in Nova Scotia.(b) Data relating to production of silica flux by some smelting companies are included with those of the non-ferrous smelting and refining industry or the sand and gravel industry.

#### FELDSPAR

Production of feldspar, crude and ground, during 1946 was 35,243 tons worth \$384,677 compared with 30,246 tons valued at \$282,656 in 1945. Quebec produced the major portion, namely 29,758 tons worth \$330,981.

Exports of feldspar from Canada totalled 19,239 tons at \$140,403 in 1946 and imports of ground feldspar amounted to 705 tons valued at \$13,622.

The consumption of ground feldspar in Canada amounted to 13,114 tons in 1946, including 4,099 tons for scouring powders, 2,701 tons for glass, 4,800 tons for pottery, etc., and 1,499 tons for enameling.

The greater part of the production of feldspar is used in the pottery, glass, enamelware and other ceramic trades, and the remainder mainly in scouring soaps and cleansers, and for bonding of fired abrasive wheels and other shapes. Some coarsely crushed spar, usually made from impure waste or quarry fines, is sold for stucco dash, artificial stone, chicken grit, etc. Small tonnages of specially selected crude ("dental spar") are used in the manufacture of artificial teeth, and such material commands a large premium.

Most of the feldspar used is of the high-potash type, though some high-soda spar is used for blending purposes and in low-fired enamels and glazes. Practically all colours are equally acceptable for ceramic uses, but for cleanser purposes, pale shades of white to buff are demanded.

Table 6 - PRODUCTION OF FELDSPAR, CRUDE AND GROUND, IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, 1930-1946

Year	Que	bec	Ont	ario	Mani	toba
LOGI	Tons	\$	Tons	\$	Tons	\$
1930	17,074	163,802	9,722	104,667	•••	
1931	10,381	86,842	7,962	100,119		
1932	3,390	39,063	3,657	42,920		
1933	6,183	59,283	4,387	45,350	88	484
1934	9,207	78.853	7,302	61,665	1,793	6,76
1935	7.002	63,075	8,656	75,003	2,084	6,25
1936	8,115	75,703	8,409	70,840	1,322	7,93
1937	12,285	105,612	9,061	72,610	• • •	
1938	5.874	62,878	8,106	65,964	78	45
1939	5,399	60,923	7.061	51,056	40	330
1940	8,548	89,004	12,907	98,619		
1941	14.218	137,160	11,822	107,124		
1942	16,802	164,588	5,468	49,353		
1943	17,199	176,222	6,659	61,549		
1944	17,842	177,271	5,667	50,361		
1945	26,389	247,242	3,857	35,414		
1946	29,758	330,981	5,485	53,696	• • • •	

Table 7 - CONSUMPTION OF GROUN	D FELDSPAR IN	CANADA, 1941	-1946			Marie Control
	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
(a) By Uses			(Tor	ns)		
Glass	909 5,411 40	2,880 4,344 119	2,614 5,892 58	2,382 4,617 75	2,740 4,847 60	2,701 4,099 15
tile, insulators, etc.) Enamelling	3,755 2,030	3,234 1,676	2,947 1,667	2,625 1,372 102	2,347 2,684 266	4,800
TOTAL	12,145	12,253	13,178	11,173	12,944	13,114
(b) By Provinces						
QuebecOntario	4,763	5,626 6,588	7,555 5,210	6,388 4,485	6,815 5,769	6,886 5,849
Manitoba	159	39	166 247	300	360	379
CANADA	12,145	12,253	13,178	11,173	12,944	13,114

Table 8 - IMPORTS INTO CANADA AND EXPORTS OF FELDSPAR, 1945 and 1946

	1 9 4 5		1 9 4 6	
	Tons	\$	Tons	
Imports - Crude feldspar Ground feldspar	826	15,052	705	13,622
Exports - Feldspar	16,888	125,028	19,239	140,403

#### NEPHELINE SYENITE

Production of nepheline syenite in Canada during 1946 was confined to one company, The American Nepheline Corporation Ltd. at Lakefield, Ontario. Shipments were valued at \$229,198 compared with \$275,766 in 1945. All of the exports went to the United States, the quantity being 51,839 tons valued at \$168,895 compared with 48,351 tons at \$153,311 in the preceding year.

Consumption of ground nepheline syenite in Canada amounted to 5,803 tons in 1946 including 5,584 tons for glass and 219 tons in the pottery industry.

Nepheline syenite is a quartz-free rock consisting essentially of nephelite and albite and of microline feldspar. It usually contains small amounts of iron-bearing impurities, chiefly magnetite hematite and biotite mica as well as such minor accessory minerals as sodalite, cancrinite, corundum zircon, muscovite mica, calcite, etc. In the developed Canadian deposits, iron-bearing impurities are of coarse sizes and can be readily removed from the crude rock by magnetic means. Other objectionable minerals, notably corundum and muscovite, can be extracted by flotation methods, with the recovery of commercial grades of such products. Nepheline syenite is relatively high in alumina (24 per cent in average Canadian commercial rock) compared with straight feldspar (17 to 20 per cent), and for this reason it is used as a feldspar substitute in a number of ceramic industries, more especially in the glass trade.

Table 9 - PRODUCTION(x) OF NEPHELINE SYENITE IN CANADA, 1936-1946

Year	Value	Year	Value
	\$		\$
1936	37,426 121,481 142,737 140,148 117,849 227,583	1942 1943 1944 1945	246,893 292,010 217,989 275,766 229,198

(x) Only one or two producers in recent years; quantity not available for publication.

Table 10 - CONSUMPTION OF GROUND NEPHELINE SYENITE IN CANADA, 1943-1946

	1943	1944	1945	1946
(a) By Uses		(To:	ns)	
Glass	5,630	7,285 257	7,778 324	5,584 219
Total	5,630	7,542	8,102	5,803
(L) The December of				
(b) By Provinces Quebec	1,268 4,133 229	1,498 5,107 937	1,570 4,991 1,541	1,192 3,973 638
Total	5,630	7,542	8,102	5,803

#### QUARTZ (SILICA)

Production of quartz or siliceous material during the year under review was 1,413,378 short tons valued at \$1,554,798, a decrease in quantity from the 1,513,628 tons produced in 1945, but an increase over the value of \$1,535,458 which was placed on that year's sales. Output included crude and crushed dyke quartz, quartzite, sandstone and natural silica sands and gravels. The mineral in one or more of the forms thus defined was produced during 1946 in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and Saskatchewan. Shipments of silica in Nova Scotia were made to steel plants largely for the making of silica brick. In Quebec, high-grade silica sands were produced for the manufacture of glass and chemicals while a considerable tonnage of these same sands was sold for sand-blasting, moulding and various other purposes; in the same province relatively large quantities of crushed quartzite were mined and milled for the manufacture of silicon carbide and other products. The greater part of the tonnage of silica shipped in Ontario during 1946 represented material intended for use in the production of silica brick, cement and ferro-silicon and for the fluxing of nickel-copper cres. Quartz production as recorded for Saskatchewan represented low-grade natural silica sands or gravels shipped as flux to the Flin Flon smelter of the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. Ltd.

Table 11 - PRODUCTION(x) OF QUARTZ (SILICA) IN CANADA, 1932-1946

Year	Tons	\$	Year	Tons	\$
1932	189,132 185,783 272,563 233,002 1,046,649 1,377,448 1,380,011 1,582,935	276,147 297,820 482,265 424,882 597,781 1,129,011 961,617 1,100,214	1940	1,858,302 2,052,878 1,738,174 1,776,749 1,740,262 1,513,628 1,413,378	1,203,527 1,366,187 1,538,162 1,608,448 1,658,409 1,535,458 1,554,798

<sup>(</sup>x) Complete data for production of this material in Ontario previous to 1936 are not available.

Table 12 - PRODUCTION OF QUARTZ, BY PROVINCES, 1945 and 1946

	1 9 4 5		1946	
	Short tons	Value	Short tons	Value
		\$		\$
Production (shipments) (x)				
Nova Scotia	10,734	36,171	7,525	15,550
Quebec	195,857	626,079	214,076	612,128
Ontario	1,165,238	820,664	1,052,644	852,713
Saskatchewan	141,799	52,544	130,105	47,542
British Columbia			9,028	26,865
CANADA	1,513,628	1,535,458	1,413,378	1,554,798

<sup>(</sup>x) Includes both crude and crushed quartz, crushed sandstone and quartzite, and natural silica sands.

Table 13 - PRODUCTION(a) OF NATURAL LOW-GRADE SILICA SAND AND SILICA GRAVEL AS NON-FERROUS STULTER FLUX,

		1944-19	946			
	1944		1945		1946	
	Tons	\$	Tons	\$	Tons	30
Ontario	608,403(b) 143,101	212,840 50,085	523,558 141,799	183,245 52,544	461,122 130,105	161,392 47,542
CANADA	751,504	262,925	665,357	235,789	591,227	208,934

<sup>(</sup>a) Included in totals shown in Tables 12 and 13.

<sup>(</sup>b) Exclusive of low-cost quartzite used in smelting nickel-copper ores.

Table 14 - IMPORTS INTO CANADA AND EXPORTS OF SILICA, 1945 and 1946

	1945		1 9 4 6	
	Quantity	\$	Quantity	\$
	Tons		Tons	
Imports -				
Ground flint stone	712	20,550	823	34,449
Ganister	426	3,384	518	3,367
Silica sand for manufacturing	410,427	926,648	390,014	914,456
Silex or crystallized quartz	7,251	247,393	10,690	114,450
Silica fire brick	• • •	741,394	• • •	579,075
Exports -				
Quartzite	121,435	282,578	200,316	441,976

Table 15 - CONSUMPTION OF SILICA SAND AND GROUND QUARTZ IN CANADA, BY INDUSTRIES AND BY PROVINCES,

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
		(Tons	of 2,000 por	inds)	
(a) By Industries		(	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	,	
Steel foundries	134,724	129,881	89,807	81,590	58,503
ron foundries	9,146	15,104	7,498	11,135	8,953
	4,338	4,535	6,481	9,949	6,013
erro-alloys					633
namelling	632	1,071	394	423	
rass foundries	1,874	3,237	2,514		* * *
hite metal foundries	42	12	41	* * *	* * *
melters	321	3,774	191		
lectrical apparatus	329	681	* * *	* * * *	350
lass	145,005	132,992	131,987	135,959	123,910
rtificial abrasives and abrasive products	76,943	89,022	73,771	74,406	83,910
roducts from imported clays	3,036	2,773	3,441	3,659	4,554
Ionumental and ornamental stone	1,385	980	759	820	1,464
repared foundry supplies	1,082	126	169	108	142
ement mills	20,711	19,473	23,942	29,424	31,222
efractories	1,642	1,365	1,023	1,114	983
coofing paper	2,879	2,135	4,307	885	1,193
Chemicals	15,296	17,305	19,708	17,073	19,456
Fertilizers	15,848	37,988	20,715	25,871	44,07
aints	1,310	1,239	1,767	1,904	1,959
	180	246	4,545)		-
coaps and washing compounds	2,282		58)	4,350	5,256
leaning preparations		3,004		205	256
datches	333	334	349	385	356
iscellaneous	402	236	74	2,678	4,464
TOTAL	439,740	467,513	393,541	401,733	397,398
				V	
(b) By Provinces			•		
Prince Edward Island	309	335	***		
Nova Scotia	4,836	2,364	1,087	2,001	2,659
New Brunswick	3,996	6,810	705	8,126	20,350
luepec	207, 244	210,909	204,970	192,482	193,50
		210,875	153,871	159,543	139,89
Intario	190,465				19,71
lanitoba	12,635	11,989	11,168	16,939	
Saskatchewan	35	59	72	41	368
llberta	14,777	16,205	16,947	17,235	16,572
critish Columbia	5,443	7,967	4,721	5,366	4,321
CANADA	439,740	467,513	393,541	401,733	397,398



### DIRECTORY OF FELDSPAR AND QUARTZ MINING INDUSTRY, 1946

- (a) Produces silica
- (b) Produces feldspar
- (c) Operates a mill
- (d) Also produces kaolin
- (e) Produces nepheline syenite
- (f) Produces grinding pebbles
- (g) Contractor
- (h) Produces scapolite

Name of Firm	Head Office Address	Location of Mine or Mill	
Nova Scotia -	2/ Whitehall Area Curlings	Talkalan Our la	
Nairn, J. (a) Stevens, Archie (a)	24 Whitney Ave., Sydney 11 McKenzie St., Glace Bay	Leitches Creek Melford	
Quebec -			
Belval, T. (b)	Farnham	Farnham	
Bigelow, Gordon (b)(g)	Glen Almond	Derry Tp.	
Bigelow, Robt. & Sons (b)	Buckingham	Portland East Tp.	
Bon Ami Ltd. (b)(c)	13719 Notre Dame St. E., Montreal	Montreal	
Buckingham Feldspar Inc. (b) Buckingham Mining Corp. (b)	276 St. James St. W., Montreal 1502 Athlone Rd., Montreal	Buckingham Buckingham	
Canada China Clay & Silica Ltd. (a)(d)	1600 Royal Bank Bldg. Toronto, Ont.	Amherst Tp.	
Canadian Carborundum Co. Ltd. (a)(c)	Box 57, Niagara Falls, Ont.	St. Canut	
Canadian Flint & Spar Co. Ltd. (a)(b)(c)	Room 512 Victoria Bldg., Ottawa, Ont.	Buckingham	
Consumers Industrial Minerals Ltd. (b)	8661 Drolet, Montreal	Montcalm Co.	
Feldspar Products Ltd. (b)	1224 St. Catherine St., Montreal	Papineau	
Hill, Wm. (a)(f)	Glen Almond	Buckingham Tp.	
Industrial Silica Corp. (a) Lafrance, Ovila (a)	Room 408 - 266 St. James St., Montreal Angers	Roberval Co.	
Law, S. H. (a) (b)	Room 28, 14 Toronto St., Toronto, Ont.	Buckingham Tp. Derry Tp.	
McGill, Lawrence (h)	Pointe-au-Chéne	Grenville	
Montpetit, Euclyde (a)	Melocheville	Beauharnois Co.	
Morin, A. H. (a)(b)	Box 3, Buckingham	Buckingham Tp.	
St. Lawrence Alloys & Metals Ltd. (a)(c)	Beauharnois	Beauharnois Co.	
Ontario - American Nepheline Corp. (e)	Lakefield	Methuen Tp.	
Bancroft Mica & Stone Products (b)(c)	Bancroft	Faraday Tp.	
Bathurst Feldspar Mines Ltd. (b)	Room 508 - 21 King St.E., Toronto	Bathurst Tp.	
Buffalo Ankerite Gold Mines Ltd. (f)	Box 533, South Porcupine	Deloro Tp.	

Canspar Mines Ltd. (b) Conger Feldspar Mining Co. Ltd. (b) Dominion Mines & Quarries Ltd. (a)(c) Frontenac Floor & Wall Tile Co. Ltd. (b)(c) International Nickel Co. of Canada Ltd. (a) Kingston Silica Mines Ltd. (a)(c) Manitoulin Quartzite Co. (a)(c) Quartz Crystals Mining Co. of Canada Ltd. (a) 712 Federal Bldg., Toronto Verona Rock Products Ltd. (a)(b) Wright and Co. (a)(c)

100 Adelaide St. W., Toronto 10 Adelaide St. E., Toronto Canada Life Bldg., Toronto Kingston Copper Cliff R. R. No. 1, Kingston 732 Langlois Ave., Windsor 330 Bay St., Toronto 960 Queen St., Sault Ste. Marie

Barry's Bay Conger Tp. Killarney Kingston Lawson Tp. Pittsburg Tp. Manitoulin Island Lansdowne Tp. Verona Deroche Tp.

#### Saskatchewan -

Hudson Bay Mining & Smelting Co. (a)

Flin Flon, Man.

#### British Columbia -

Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. Ltd. (a) Trail, B. C.

Fairview

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