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1896

MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA

*To Dr. G. M. Dawson, C.M.G., F.R.S., Etc.,
Director of the Geological Survey.*

SIR,—I have the honour herewith to submit the Annual Preliminary Statistical Statement of the Mineral Production of Canada for the calendar year 1896.

It is gratifying to note that the statement is ready to go to press some days earlier than in any previous year, a fact due to the efforts of Mr. I. L. Brophy, Statistical Assistant to the Section.

Whilst, for many of the products, it is not found possible at this time to obtain the final figures, yet we are enabled in most cases to fill in the places of the missing returns by close estimates, based upon a general knowledge of the progress made in the various industries.

The complete report will follow later, and besides containing a revise of this general table of production, will include other details relating to exploration and development, exports and imports, etc. As much of this information is not available till several months after the close of the year, and the compilation and printing necessarily occupy some time, it cannot, in the nature of things, be issued until well on in the year following the one covered.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ELFRIC DREW INGALL.

Geological Survey of Canada,
(Section of Mineral Statistics and Mines)
13th February, 1897.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

G. M. DAWSON, C.M.G., LL.D., F.R.S., DIRECTOR.

MINERAL STATISTICS AND MINES

SUMMARY

OF THE

MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA

FOR

1896

ELFRIC DREW INGALL, M. E.,

*Associate of the Royal School of Mines, England, Mining Engineer
to the Geological Survey of Canada.*

ASSISTANTS

L. L. BROPHY,

A. A. COLE, B.A.Sc.



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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA.

SUMMARY OF THE MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA IN 1896.

(Subject to revision.)

PRODUCT.	Quantity (a).	Value (a).
<i>Metallic.</i>		
Copper (fine, in ore, &c.,) (b).....lbs.	9,385,556	\$1,021,148
Gold.....		2,810,206
Iron ore.....tons.	88,206	184,313
Lead (fine, in ore, &c.,) (c).....lbs.	24,199,977	721,384
Nickel (fine, in ore, &c.,) (d)....."	3,500,000	1,155,000
Silver (fine, in ore, &c.,) (e).....ozs.	3,205,343	2,147,579
Total metallic.....		\$8,039,640
<i>Non-Metallic.</i>		
Asbestos.....tons.	12,250	\$ 429,856
Chromite....."	2,362	25,982
Coal....."	3,743,234	8,006,305
Coke (f)....."	49,817	111,560
Felspar....."	480	1,368
Fire clay....."	667	1,427
Graphite....."		9,455
Grindstones....."	3,663	32,810
Gypsum....."	205,203	174,403
Manganese ore....."	12	900
Mica.....		60,000
Mineral Pigments—		
Baryta.....tons.	145	715
Ochres....."	2,250	10,925
Mineral water.....galls.	706,372	111,736
Natural gas (g).....		276,301
Petroleum (h).....bbls.	726,822	1,155,646
Phosphate (apatite).....tons.	570	3,990
Pyrites....."	33,715	101,155
Salt....."	43,956	169,677
Soapstone....."	410	1,230
Tripolite....."	664	9,960
<i>Structural Materials and Clay Products.</i>		
* Bricks.....		1,600,000
* Building stone.....		1,000,000

* Partly estimated.

SUMMARY OF THE MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA IN 1896—*Cont.*

(Subject to revision).

PRODUCT.	Quantity (a).	Value (a).
<i>Structural Materials and Clay Products.—(Continued.)</i>		
Cement, natural.....bbls.	69,705	\$ 60,500
“ Portland.....“	78,085	141,005
Flagstones.....		6,710
Granite.....tons.	18,717	106,709
* Lime.....		650,000
Marble.....tons.	74	905
Pottery.....		163,905
* Sands and gravels.....tons.		120,000
Sewer pipe.....		153,875
Slate.....		53,370
Terra-cotta.....		110,855
* Tiles.....		225,000
Total non-metallic.....		\$15,087,665
Total metallic.....		8,039,640
Estimated value of mineral products not returned....		500,000
1896, Total.....		\$23,627,305
1895 “.....		\$22,000,000
1894 “.....		20,900,000
1893 “.....		19,250,000
1892 “.....		19,500,000
1891 “.....		20,500,000
1890 “.....		18,000,000
1889 “.....		14,500,000
1888 “.....		13,500,000
1887 “.....		12,500,000
1886 “.....		12,000,000

* Partly estimated.

- (a) Quantity or value of product marketed. The ton used is that of 2,000 lbs.
 (b) Copper contents of ore, matte, etc., at 10·88 cents per lb.
 (c) Lead contents of ores, etc., at 2·98 cents per lb.
 (d) Nickel contents of ore, matte, etc., at 33 cents per lb.
 (e) Silver contents of ore at 67 cents per oz.
 (f) Oven coke, nearly all the production of Nova Scotia.
 (g) Gross return from sale of gas.
 (h) Calculated from inspection returns at 100 galls. crude to 42 refined oil, and computed at \$1.59 per bbl. of 35 imp. galls. The barrel of refined oil is assumed to contain 42 imp. galls.

REMARKS.

It will be observed that since the calendar year 1886, the total value of the mineral product of Canada has nearly doubled.

The following table shews the principal changes in production and values during the calendar year 1896, as compared with the figures given in the revised summary for 1895 :—

PRODUCT.	QUANTITY.		VALUE.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
			\$	\$
Coal..... tons.	229,738		278,859	
Copper..... lbs.	596,394		71,919	
Gold.....			899,306	
Iron ore..... tons.		14,591		53,757
Lead..... lbs.	1,124,085			28,582
Natural gas.....				146,761
Nickel..... lbs.		388,525		205,904
Silver..... ozs.	1,429,660		988,956	

It will be seen from the above figures that increases are shewn in the production of coal, copper, gold, lead and silver, while the output of iron ore, natural gas and nickel has fallen off to a considerable extent. The increase in coal is altogether due to Nova Scotia, which produced 296,153 net tons more than in 1895, but this increased output is offset in a large measure by a decrease of 104,629 tons in the production of British Columbia.

Copper shews a large decrease in Ontario and a small increase in Quebec, while British Columbia's contribution is 3,818,556 lbs., which amount is 1,848,193 lbs. more than in 1895.

In gold, large increases are to be credited to Nova Scotia and Ontario, but British Columbia heads the list with an increase over the previous year of \$497,675.

Owing to the dull state of the iron market during the year, the production of iron ore has fallen off to a considerable extent in all the provinces, with the exception of Ontario. The exception is directly due to the erection of the blast furnace at Hamilton, Ont., the company obtaining all the Canadian ores smelted from that province. The production of lead is altogether that of British Columbia, and has increased in the year by over 1,000,000 lbs., but a decrease in the market price of some 8 per cent lessens the total value by \$28,582.

Natural gas shews a decrease in value of \$146,761, or about 34 per cent, which would seem to be due to a heavy falling off in the production of the Welland gas-field.

Ontario's nickel production is reduced during the year by nearly 400,000 lbs., and shows a decrease in the value of over \$200,000.

British Columbia shews an output of silver amounting to 3,135,343 ozs., valued at \$2,100,689, an increase during the past 12 months of of 1,429,660 ozs. in quantity, and in value of nearly a million dollars.