

3.—Metallic Minerals.

1.—Gold.

Canada has been a gold-producing country for over 60 years. The discovery of gold in paying quantities was an epoch-making event in the history of British Columbia. In the late fifties, placer gold was discovered along the Thompson river, and in 1858 the famous Fraser river rush took place, attracting the attention of the mining world to British Columbia. The extraordinarily rich deposits of Williams and Lightning creeks in the Cariboo district were discovered in 1860, and three years later the area had a record production of placer gold valued at \$4,000,000. In the northern part of the province, the Atlin division of the Cassiar district was discovered in 1892.

The discovery of gold in the Yukon river was reported in 1869, and bar mining on the tributaries of the Yukon was conducted with increasing profit between 1881 and 1886. Ten years later rich discoveries were made in creeks of the Klondike river, a right bank tributary joining the Yukon at what is now Dawson City; and one of the greatest rushes in history was made to this locality. The richest streams in the district were Bonanza creek and its principal tributary, the Eldorado.

Gold was discovered in Nova Scotia in 1860. Two years after the discovery, gold valued at nearly \$142,000 was recovered from the quartz veins; a steady, though in recent years declining, output has been reported since that time.

Although gold was first discovered during 1866 in Hastings county, no permanent gold industry was established in Ontario until recent years. Gold has been found and worked at many points in Ontario from the lake of the Woods in the west to the Hastings district in the east, a distance of roughly 650 miles. The gold production of the province during the last decade has increased greatly, the Porcupine area having been the principal producer since 1912.

Gold production in Canada attained its maximum in 1900, when the Yukon production reached its highest point, and 1,350,057 ounces of fine gold were produced. For the provinces the years in which the greatest yields were obtained were as follows: Nova Scotia, 1902; Quebec, 1881; Ontario, 1922; Alberta, 1896; and British Columbia, 1913. The quantity and value of gold produced in Canada is given for 1911 and subsequent years in Tables 16 and 17. Preliminary figures for the first half of 1924 show a production of 700,264 oz., valued at \$14,475,741, as compared with 530,402 oz., valued at \$10,964,382, in the first half of 1923.

16.—Quantity of Gold produced in Canada, by Provinces, calendar years 1911-1923.

Years.	Nova Scotia.	Quebec.	Ontario.	Manitoba.	Alberta.	British Columbia.	Yukon Territory.	Total.
	Oz. fine.	Oz. fine.	Oz. fine.	Oz. fine.	Oz. fine.	Oz. fine.	Oz. fine.	Oz. fine.
1911.....	7,781	613	2,062	—	10	238,496	224,197	473,159
1912.....	4,385	642	86,523	—	73	251,815	268,447	611,885
1913.....	2,174	701	219,801	—	—	297,459	282,838	802,973
1914.....	2,904	1,299	268,264	—	48	252,730	247,940	773,178
1915.....	6,636	1,099	406,577	—	195	273,376	230,173	918,056
1916.....	4,562	1,034	492,481	—	82	219,633	212,700	930,492
1917.....	2,210	1,511	423,261	440	—	133,742	177,667	738,831
1918.....	1,176	1,939	411,976	1,926	27	180,163	102,474	699,681
1919.....	850	1,470	505,739	724	24	167,252	90,705	766,764
1920.....	690	955	564,995	781	—	124,808	72,778	765,007
1921.....	439	635	708,213	207	49	150,792	65,994	926,329
1922.....	1,042	—	1,000,340	156	—	207,370	54,456	1,263,364
1923.....	655	667	971,704	31	—	200,140	60,144	1,233,341

NOTE.—For the years 1862 to 1910, see Canada Year Book, 1916-17, pp. 268 and 269.