Subsection 4.—Lead.

Lead is obtained in Canada largely from the deposits of British Columbia. From 88,665 lb. in 1891 the production advanced to over 39,000,000 lb. in 1897, an average increase of about 6,500,000 lb. per year. Owing to the low price of silver in 1898 and labour troubles in the Slocan in 1899, the output fell off to 21,900,000 lb. in 1899, but rose to 63,200,000 in 1900. This increase was due to the development of two or three mines in the Fort Steele mining division, although all the lead-producing districts except Ainsworth showed a material increase in production. The output fell to 18,100,000 lb. in 1903, owing to the condition of the market affecting the production of the low-grade silver-lead ores of the East Kootenay district. An Act was passed in October, 1903, providing for the payment of bounties on lead contained in lead-bearing ores mined in Canada, and as a direct result of the bounty the output increased to 56,900,000 lb. in 1905, but fell off gradually to 23,800,000 lb. in 1911. A steady improvement has since been experienced, a record total of 337,946,688 lb. being reached in 1928, while the preliminary estimate for 1929 is 325,950,245 lb.

British Columbia.—In the East Kootenay district, the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. operates many important mines, the principal of which is the Sullivan lead-zinc mine near Kimberley. The ore averages about 11 p.c. lead, 7 p.c. zinc and 5 ounces of silver to the ton. In the West Kootenay district the ores are chiefly argentiferous galena and zinc-blende, occurring as veins in granites and slates. The ores range from 7 p.c. to 75 p.c. of lead, with considerable values of silver. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. has extended its facilities for mining, milling and smelting. This accounts to a considerable extent for the rapid growth in lead production during the last few years.

Ontario.—Lead mining in Ontario is intimately associated with the successful operations of the Galetta mine and smelter. Recent discoveries in the Sudbury Basin area have disclosed large bodies of lead-zinc ore. These properties are under development but no production has come from them as yet.

15.—Quantity and Value of Lead Produced from Canadian Ores, calendar years 1901-1929.

NOTE:—For figures for the years 1887-1900, see 1929 Year Book, p. 367.

Years.	Quantity.[1]	Value.	Cents per pound.[1]	Years.	Quantity.[1]	Value.	Cents per pound.[1]
	lb.	$			lb.	$	
1901	51,900,958	2,249,387	4·334	1916	41,497,615	3,532,692	8·513
1902	22,956,381	934,095	4·069	1917	32,576,281	3,628,020	11·137
1903	18,139,283	768,562	4·237	1918	51,398,002	4,754,315	9·250
1904	37,531,244	1,617,221	4·309	1919	43,827,669	3,053,037	6·966
1905	56,864,915	2,676,632	4·707	1920	35,953,717	3,214,262	8·940
1906	54,608,217	3,089,187	5·657	1921	66,679,592	3,828,742	5·742
1907	47,736,703	2,542,086	5·325	1922	93,307,171	5,817,702	6·219
1908	43,195,733	1,814,221	4·200	1923	111,234,466	7,985,522	7·179
1909	45,857,424	1,692,139	3·690	1924	175,485,499	14,221,345	8·104
1910	32,987,508	1,216,249	3·687	1925	253,590,578	23,127,460	9·120
1911	23,784,969	827,717	3·480	1926	283,801,265	19,240,661	6·751
1912	35,763,476	1,597,554	4·467	1927	311,423,161	16,477,139	5·256
1913	37,662,703	1,754,705	4·659	1928	337,946,688	15,553,231	4·576
1914	36,337,765	1,627,568	4·479	1929[2]	325,950,245	16,514,057	5,066
1915	46,316,450	2,593,721	5·600				

[1] Previous to 1913 the figures reported show the metal content of the shipments and are somewhat in excess of the actual amount recovered. Since 1912 the data given represent the quantity of lead produced in Canada from domestic ores, together with the estimated lead recovery from lead ores and concentrates exported. From 1901 to 1908, average prices at New York; 1909 and 1910, average prices at Toronto; from 1911 to 1925, average prices in Montreal; 1926–1929 the average yearly price at London, Eng., was used in making up the values shown. [2] Preliminary figures.