

British Columbia and the silver-lead ores of the Yukon Territory. A certain amount of silver also occurs in combination with the gold ores of northern Ontario and the nickel ores of the Sudbury district.

Ontario.—The production of silver in Ontario in 1929 was 8,890,726 fine oz., valued at \$4,711,462, practically the whole of which was derived from the rich silver-bearing ores of the Cobalt district, but small quantities were obtained from the products of the nickel refineries and from gold bullion.

The Cobalt camp was discovered in 1903, when the Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway was being built from North Bay to the head of Lake Timiskaming. This was at Long lake, subsequently christened "Cobalt lake", and the surrounding area became known as the Cobalt silver camp.

From 1904 to 1911 the output of silver increased rapidly year by year. In 1911 the province of Ontario reported a production from that camp of 31,507,791¹ fine oz., the value of which was \$15,953,847. In 1912 the output was nearly as great, being 30,243,859¹ fine oz., but prices had gone up and the value was greater, namely, \$17,408,935. Since that time the production has been declining, but the life of the camp has been prolonged by the finding of "blind" veins and by improvements in the methods of extraction which have permitted the working of ores of a grade too low for profit by the former methods.

The Gowganda camp, which lies about 55 miles northwest of Cobalt, has been the source of much high-grade silver ore, mainly from the Miller Lake-O'Brien and Castle-Trethewey mines. This section was more or less handicapped by its distance from the railway and lack of facilities for transportation until a good road was completed from the railway at Elk Lake, on a branch line of the Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. In addition a hydro-electric power transmission line has been extended from Elk Lake to Gowganda. With these added facilities, a number of mines in the camp enlarged their operations. The history of the South Lorrain camp, which lies about 18 miles to the south-east of Cobalt, on the shore of lake Timiskaming, is characteristic. It was worked for some time and then closed, the conclusion having been reached that the camp was worked out. The Keeley mine turned out later to be extremely rich, producing in 1924 nearly 2,000,000 fine oz. of silver.

British Columbia.—In 1926 for the first time since 1905 this province surpassed Ontario in silver production. Most of the British Columbia output of silver is now derived from the ores of the Sullivan mine near Kimberley and the Premier mine at Premier. Other sources of silver in this province are the silver-lead-zinc ores of East and West Kootenay, and the gold-copper ores of the Boundary and the Coast districts.

Comparing the quantity rather than the value, production in 1930 was the greatest on record and amounted to 11,836,632 fine oz.,² although this record was nearly equalled in 1927 with a production of 11,040,445 fine oz. Small amounts were recovered with alluvial gold and from gold bullion, but the Sullivan

¹ These figures are taken from reports of the Ontario Department of Mines, by which silver production, until recent years, was computed on a different basis from that used in Table 12 following.

² Preliminary figures.