

and Castle-Trethewey mines. This section was handicapped by its 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. The South Lorrain camp, which lies about 18 miles to the southeast of Cobalt, on the shore of lake Timiskaming, has also produced large quantities of silver and cobalt. The Keeley mine was extremely rich, producing in 1924 nearly 2,000,000 fine oz. of silver.

Owing to the depletion of the ore bodies combined with the very low price of silver, operations were much curtailed in the Cobalt, Gowganda and South Lorrain camps in 1931.

**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 11,825,930 fine oz., 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 and Premier mines were responsible for the greater part of the output from this province. The Sullivan, primarily noted for its lead and zinc production, is the largest producer of silver in Canada. Silver was also recovered from the copper ores and concentrates which were exported for treatment in foreign smelters and from blister copper made at the Trail and Anyox smelters.

**Yukon Territory.**—The production of silver from the Yukon Territory in 1930 amounted to 3,746,326 fine oz., derived chiefly from the silver-lead ores exported from the Mayo district. For some years the difficulties and high cost of transportation involved in the export of these ores were serious obstacles to the successful operation of the mines. However, in the summer of 1925 the Treadwell Yukon Co. of Keno Hill, the largest producer in the district, completed a concentrating plant which has been operating steadily since that time. By eliminating much of the waste from the ores, concentration reduces the transportation costs. Ores from neighbouring mines are treated at this mill and this feature is of great assistance to the smaller operators in the district. The quantity of silver obtained from placer gold is gradually decreasing.

**World Production of Silver.**—The world production of silver was estimated at 248,139,133 fine oz. for 1930, an increase of 19 p.c. over the pre-war figure of 1913, given as 208,690,446 fine oz. The silver production of Canada in 1930 was 26,443,823<sup>1</sup> fine oz., or about 10.7 p.c. of the estimated world total for that year. This placed Canada third, next to Mexico and the United States. For the quantity and value of the world production in 1929 and 1930, see Table 10 of this chapter.

Statistics of the quantities and values of silver produced in Canada are given for the years since 1887 in Table 11, while statistics of the quantities and values produced in the various provinces are given for 1911 and subsequent years in Table 12.

<sup>1</sup> See footnote on p. 263.