

some of the producing mines the higher price for the metal permitted a very considerable extension or increase of pay ore with the resultant milling of rock of lower gold content and important increases in ore reserves.

The economic recovery since 1932 and the rising trend in base-metal prices have resulted in a rapid increase in production from deposits which were already known and partly developed before 1929; this expansion has occurred in spite of the fact that base-metal prices have not yet reached the level relative to gold which existed prior to 1929. The metals, nickel, copper, lead, and zinc were produced in greater quantities in 1937 than ever before in Canada. Furthermore, during the past year there has been a revival of activity in the search for base-metal properties.

Production of various non-metallic minerals, especially asbestos and coal, have realized important gains since 1932. The gains in the structural materials industries, where recessions were severe during the period of business depression, have been encouraging since 1933, but there is room for a large expansion in this division when the construction industry recovers its normal activity.

In 1936, the latest year for which comprehensive world figures of the Imperial Institute are available, Canada stood first in the production of asbestos, nickel, and the platinum metals, second in radium, third in gold, zinc and copper, and fourth in lead and silver. During that year, Canada produced approximately 87 p.c. of the world production of nickel, 54 p.c. of the asbestos, 11 p.c. of the copper, 11 p.c. of the gold, 11 p.c. of the lead, 9 p.c. of the zinc, and 7 p.c. of the silver.

The Preliminary Report on the Mineral Production of Canada, released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in March, 1938, shows a total valuation of \$456,793,260 for the mineral output of the Dominion in 1937 compared with \$361,919,372 in 1936. This represents an increase of 20.8 p.c. and reflects the continuation of the improved conditions commencing in 1933.

Subsection 1.—General Statistics of Mineral Production.

In Table 1 will be found the total values of the minerals produced in Canada in each year since 1886, while Table 2 gives the details of the mineral production of 1935 and 1936, with the percentage of increase or decrease in the latter year.

1.—Value of Mineral Production in Canada, calendar years 1886-1937.

Calendar Year.	Total Value.	Value per Capita.	Calendar Year.	Total Value.	Value per Capita.	Calendar Year.	Total Value.	Value per Capita.
	\$	\$		\$	\$		\$	\$
1886.....	10,221,255	2.23	1904.....	60,082,771	10.31	1922.....	184,297,242	20.66
1887.....	10,321,331	2.23	1905.....	69,078,999	11.51	1923.....	214,079,331	23.76
1888.....	12,518,894	2.67	1906.....	79,286,697	12.86	1924.....	209,583,406	22.92
1889.....	14,013,113	2.96	1907.....	86,865,202	13.55	1925.....	226,583,333	24.38
1890.....	16,763,353	3.51	1908.....	85,557,101	12.92	1926.....	240,437,123	25.44
1891.....	18,976,616	3.93	1909.....	91,831,441	13.50	1927.....	247,356,695	25.67
1892.....	16,623,415	3.40	1910.....	106,823,623	15.29	1928.....	274,989,487	27.96
1893.....	20,035,082	4.06	1911.....	103,220,994	14.32	1929.....	310,850,246	31.00
1894.....	19,931,158	4.00	1912.....	135,048,296	18.28	1930.....	279,873,578	27.42
1895.....	20,505,917	4.08	1913.....	145,634,812	19.08			
1896.....	22,474,256	4.42	1914.....	128,863,075	16.36	1931.....	230,434,726 ¹	22.21 ¹
1897.....	28,485,023	5.56	1915.....	137,109,171	17.18	1932.....	191,228,225	18.20
						1933.....	221,495,253	20.74
1898.....	38,412,431	7.42	1916.....	177,201,534	22.15	1934.....	278,161,590	25.67
1899.....	49,234,005	9.41	1917.....	189,646,821	23.53	1935.....	312,344,457	28.56
1900.....	64,420,877	12.15	1918.....	211,301,897	25.93	1936.....	361,919,372	32.82
1901.....	65,797,911	12.25	1919.....	176,686,390	21.26	1937 ²	456,793,260	41.08
1902.....	63,231,836	11.51	1920.....	227,859,665	26.63			
1903.....	61,740,513	10.90	1921.....	171,923,342	19.56			

¹ Beginning with 1931 exchange equalization on gold production is included in total value.

² Figures for 1937 are subject to revision.