Subsection 7.—Metals of the Platinum Group.

Metals of this group produced in Canada include platinum, palladium, rhodium, ruthenium, osmium, and iridium. Platinum and palladium are of chief importance. Since the early days there has been a small recovery of platinum associated with the gold of the alluvial deposits of British Columbia and other small amounts have been recovered in the refining of base metals at Trail. However, the chief source of these metals in Canada is the nickel-copper ore of Sudbury, and the great expansion in the mining industry of that district has resulted in a large increase in the production of the platinum metals, making Canada the leading producing country of the world. The next most important countries are Russia and Colombia.

18.—Quantities and Values of Platinum and Palladium Produced in Canada, 1921-38.

NOTE.—Records of platinum production in Canada go back to 1887, but the amounts were comparatively small and were not on the same basis as those of 1921.

Year.	Platinum.		Palladium.[1]		Year.	Platinum.		Palladium.[1]	
	oz. fine.	$	oz. fine.	$		oz. fine.	$	oz. fine.	$
1921	292	23,599	913	30,046	1930	34,024	1,543,261	34,092	895,867
1922	470	45,863	1,219	78,340	1931	44,775	1,596,900	46,918	1,217,717
1923	1,217	141,826	2,036	183,560	1932	27,343	1,099,393	37,613	901,890
1924	9,186	1,091,427	9,516	863,113	1933	24,786	857,590	31,009	645,043
1925	8,698	1,028,192	8,288	648,969	1934	116,230	4,490,763	83,932	1,699,228
1926	9,521	923,607	10,024	640,179	1935	105,374	3,445,730	84,772	1,962,937
1927	11,228	717,613	11,545	554,190	1936	131,571	5,320,731	103,671	2,483,075
1928	10,532	708,909	13,707	627,833	1937	139,377	6,752,816	119,829	3,179,782
1929	12,519	846,756	17,318	809,289	1938[2]	161,317	5,196,504	130,893	3,677,392

[1] Includes also rhodium, ruthenium, osmium, and iridium. [2] Preliminary figures.

Subsection 8.—Radium and Uranium.*

The silver-pitchblende deposits of the Eldorado Gold Mines Ltd., at the east end of Great Bear lake were discovered in 1930. Since that time a modern mining and milling plant has been established at the deposits; extensive improvements in transportation facilities have been introduced over the 1,500-mile route from the railway at Waterways in Alberta down the Mackenzie, up the Great Bear river, and across the lake to the mine; and a plant for the refining of radium and uranium products has been brought into operation at Port Hope, Ont. Silver, copper, cobalt, and lead, as well as radium and uranium, are recovered from the ores. Extensive ore reserves have been indicated at the mine and during 1937-38 the capacity of the refining plant at Port Hope was approximately trebled. Canadian production from this source has resulted in a reduction of the world price of radium by about 62 p.c. from 1933 to approximately $22 per milligram in 1937, and of about 37 p.c. in the price of uranium salts during the same period.

* Contributed by the Director, Mines and Geology Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa.