

The Royal Canadian Mint. The Ottawa Mint was established as a branch of the Royal Mint under the (Imperial) Coinage Act, 1870, and opened on Jan. 2, 1908. By 21-22 Geo. V, c. 48, it was constituted a branch of the Department of Finance, and by the Proclamation of Nov. 14, 1931, issued under Sec. 3 of that Act, it has, since Dec. 1, 1931, operated as the Royal Canadian Mint. At first the British North American provinces, and later the Dominion of Canada, obtained their coins from the Royal Mint in London or from The Mint, Birmingham, Ltd., and in its earlier years the operations of the Mint in Canada were confined to the production of gold, silver, and bronze coins for domestic circulation, of British sovereigns, and of small coins struck under contract for Newfoundland and Jamaica. Previous to 1914 small quantities of gold bullion were refined, but during the War the Mint came to the assistance of the British Government by establishing a refinery in which nearly twenty million ounces of South African gold were treated on account of the Bank of England, and the subsequent great development of the gold-mining industry in Canada has resulted in gold-refining becoming one of the principal activities of the Mint. Gold coins have not been struck since 1919, most of the fine gold produced from the rough shipments from the mines being delivered to the Department of Finance (since Mar. 11, 1935, the Bank of Canada has acted as agent for the Government) in the form of bars of approximately 400 fine oz. each, the rest being sold in a convenient form to manufacturers. The fine silver extracted from the rough gold, when not required for coinage, is sold in New York or disposed of to local manufacturing firms.

4.—Annual Receipts of Gold Bullion at the Ottawa Mint, and Bullion and Coinage Issued, calendar years 1926-38.

Calendar Year.	Gold Received.	Gold Bullion Issued.	Silver Coin Issued.	Nickel Coin Issued.	Bronze Coin Issued.
	fine oz.	fine oz.	\$	\$	\$
1926.....	1,375,502	1,347,668	50,000	168,500	28,200
1927.....	1,448,180	1,451,907	574,000	249,000	37,500
1928.....	1,325,113	1,305,200	867,000	250,000	92,100
1929.....	438,351	468,384	1,081,000	267,000	123,300
1930.....	862,075	722,469	326,000	164,500	13,400
1931.....	1,721,237	1,735,112	475,400	281,000	51,400
1932.....	2,829,529	2,873,231	287,000	165,000	213,200
1933.....	2,568,838	2,589,649	155,000	125,000	120,800
1934.....	3,008,977	3,038,019	172,300	193,000	69,900
1935.....	3,158,780	3,177,401	601,020	194,000	75,100
1936.....	3,608,335	3,625,549	809,200	202,600	87,200
1937.....	3,933,453	3,937,910	1,322,200	251,100	108,400
1938.....	4,398,258	4,308,067	1,376,000	153,500	184,300

Subsection 2.—Dominion and Bank of Canada Notes.

Dominion Notes.—It is explained in the historical outline referred to at the beginning of this chapter that Dominion notes became established in 1868. The legislation by which the issue was expanded with the growth of the country is given in a footnote on p. 952 of the 1934-35 Year Book.