

Canadian requirements of the others in refined form being imported. Of the non-metallic minerals then produced, coal, asbestos, and gypsum were the most important, the last two being very largely sold for export.

The development of Canada's mineral resources up to the commencement of the War of 1914-18, had, therefore, no relation to war requirements, except in the production of nickel matte for export, nickel then being considered largely as a war metal because of its important use in making armour plate. The significant development in the Dominion's mineral industry during the five years of the War was the establishment of domestic metal-refining facilities, the production of refined zinc and refined copper at Trail, B.C., commencing in 1916, and of refined nickel at Port Colborne, Ont., in 1918. Owing to the pressure of war demands at high prices, substantial increases in the production of nickel, copper, lead, zinc, pyrites, molybdenite, chromite, and asbestos were recorded in the war years. However, it was the large growth in mining operations of the period of prosperity ended in 1929, and, more particularly, in the six years of subnormal mineral prices (except for gold) that followed the low point of the depression in 1933, that has established the great strength of the Dominion's mineral position in support of the present war effort.

Not only is the Canadian mining industry able to produce very important essential war minerals in greater quantities than ever before, but it can do so profitably at prices very much lower than those that had to be paid during the War of 1914-18. Thus, a very valuable indirect contribution is being made to the conservation of the Allied economic reserves. In addition, by reason of the remarkable expansion in gold mining in recent years the industry is in an exceptionally strong position to add directly to those economic reserves.

CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION IN 1918 UNDER THE MAXIMUM DEMAND OF THE GREAT WAR, AS COMPARED WITH PRODUCTION IN 1939, BY PRINCIPAL MINERALS.

Mineral.	Quantities.		Values.	
	1918.	1939. <sup>1</sup>	1918.	1939. <sup>1</sup>
<b>METALLICS—</b>			\$'000	\$'000
Gold..... fine oz.	699,681	5,095,176	14,464	184,145
Silver..... "	21,383,979	23,116,861	20,694	9,360
Copper..... short ton	59,385	304,050	29,251	60,860
Nickel..... "	46,254	113,053	37,003	50,920
Lead..... "	25,699	194,189	4,754	12,308
Zinc..... "	17,542	197,267	2,862	12,108
Platinum metals..... fine oz.	1,949 <sup>2</sup>	284,304	71 <sup>3</sup>	9,422
Other.....	-	-	5,522	3,531
<b>TOTALS, METALLICS.....</b>	-	-	<b>114,549<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>342,654</b>
<b>NON-METALLICS—</b>				
<b>Fuels—</b>				
Coal..... short ton	14,977,926	15,519,464	55,193	48,258
Petroleum..... bbl.	304,741	7,838,310	885	10,353
Natural gas..... M cu. ft.	20,140,309	35,394,087	4,351	12,539
<b>Totals, Fuels.....</b>	-	-	<b>60,429</b>	<b>71,154<sup>5</sup></b>
<b>Industrial—</b>				
Asbestos..... short ton	158,259	364,472	8,971	15,859
Gypsum..... "	152,287	1,408,188	823	1,923
Salt..... "	131,727	424,500	1,285	2,487
Sulphur..... "	154,269	210,704	1,705	1,668
Sodium sulphate..... "	Nil	71,453	-	627
Other.....	-	-	4,409	2,461
<b>Totals, Industrial.....</b>	-	-	<b>17,193</b>	<b>25,025</b>
<b>TOTALS, NON-METALLICS.....</b>	-	-	<b>77,622</b>	<b>96,179</b>
<b>CLAY PRODUCTS AND OTHER STRUCTURAL MATERIALS.....</b>	-	-	<b>19,131</b>	<b>34,274</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS.....</b>	-	-	<b>211,302</b>	<b>473,107</b>

<sup>1</sup> Subject to revision. <sup>2</sup> Largely recovered at International Nickel Company's New Jersey refinery. This figure does not include the recovery in Great Britain from the Mond Nickel Company's nickel matte. <sup>3</sup> Value of 689 fine oz. of platinum. <sup>4</sup> Includes the value of platinum from placer deposits, but not that of platinum from nickel matte. <sup>5</sup> Includes peat.