

19.—Quantities and Values of Platinum and Palladium Produced in Canada, 1925-41

NOTE.—Records of the platinum production in Canada go back to 1887, but, prior to 1921, the amounts were comparatively small and the basis of calculation was not comparable with that now used. Figures for the years 1921 to 1924 will be found at p. 340 of the 1940 Year Book.

Year	Platinum		Palladium ¹		Year	Platinum		Palladium ¹	
	oz. fine	\$	oz. fine	\$		oz. fine	\$	oz. fine	\$
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	640,178	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....	161,326	5,196,794	130,893	3,677,342
1930.....	34,024	1,543,261	34,092	895,867	1939....	148,902	5,222,589	135,402	4,199,622
1931.....	44,775	1,596,900	46,918	1,217,717	1940....	³	7,761,108 ²	³	³
1932.....	27,343	1,099,393	37,613	901,890	1941....	³	³	³	³
1933.....	24,786	857,590	31,009	645,043					

¹ Includes also rhodium, ruthenium, osmium and iridium. ² Includes palladium and all other metals of the platinum group. ³ War-time restrictions preclude the publication of these data.

Subsection 8.—Radium and Uranium

The silver-pitchblende deposits 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 are 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 of about 62 p.c. from 1933 (it was approximately \$22 per milligram in 1937) and of about 37 p.c. in the price of uranium salts over the same period. For some years official production figures were not available for publication, since, because of the limited nature of operations, they would have reflected the business of individual companies. At p. 344 of the 1939 Year Book a table compiled from various unofficial sources gives the production of radium and of uranium salts for the years 1933 to 1937. Radium and uranium products valued at \$1,121,553 were shipped during 1939. The value of shipments during 1940 and 1941 will not be published separately. World demand for radium lessened with the outbreak of war and the mine at Great Bear Lake was shut down since a reserve of concentrates had been built up at the Port Hope refinery.

Subsection 9.—Silver

A short review of silver production in Canada is given at pp. 258-259 of the 1941 Year Book.

Silver production attained its maximum of 32,869,264 fine ounces in 1910 when the Cobalt silver camp was at its peak but production from that source has declined. At the present time, the Sullivan mine in British Columbia, primarily noted for its lead and zinc, is the largest producer of silver in Canada.