

21.—Quantities and Values of World Production of Silver, with Annual Average Prices, 1900-41¹

(From the Annual Report of the Director of the United States Mint)

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1860-99, inclusive, will be found at p. 346 of the 1939 Year Book.

Year	Quantity	Value	Average Price per fine oz. ²	Year	Quantity	Value	Average Price per fine oz. ²	Year	Quantity	Value	Average Price per fine oz. ²
	'000 oz. fine	\$'000	\$		'000 oz. fine	\$'000	\$		'000 oz. fine	\$'000	\$
1900.....	173,591	107,626	0-620	1914...	172,264	95,282	0-553	1928...	257,925	151,214	0-583
1901.....	173,011	103,807	0-600	1915...	173,001	88,338	0-519	1929...	260,970	139,961	0-536
1902.....	162,763	86,265	0-530	1916...	180,802	121,410	0-686	1930...	248,708	96,310	0-387
1903.....	167,689	90,552	0-543	1917...	186,125	156,345	0-895				
1904.....	164,195	95,233	0-579	1918...	203,159	200,000	0-985 ²	1931...	195,920	56,842	0-290 ²
1905.....	172,318	105,114	0-610	1919...	179,850	201,588	1-121	1932...	164,893	46,506	0-282
1906.....	165,054	111,724	0-677	1920...	173,296	176,658	1-019	1933...	169,159	59,201	0-350
1907.....	184,207	121,857	0-662	1921...	171,286	108,074	0-631	1934...	190,398	91,930	0-483
1908.....	203,131	108,655	0-535	1922...	209,815	158,207	0-679	1935...	220,704	142,535	0-646
								1936...	253,696	115,175	0-454
1909.....	212,149	110,351	0-520	1923...	246,010	172,276	0-700	1937...	274,574	124,077	0-452
1910.....	221,716	119,897	0-541	1924...	239,485	178,311	0-745	1938...	267,765	116,577	0-435
1911.....	226,193	121,981	0-539	1925...	245,214	172,498	0-703	1939...	265,927	104,762	0-394
1912.....	230,904	141,937	0-615	1926...	253,795	159,569	0-629	1940...	272,510	95,610	0-351
1913.....	210,013	126,970	0-605	1927...	253,981	144,947	0-570	1941...	262,854	92,249	0-351

¹ World totals for the years since 1941 have not been published. ² At the average par price of a fine ounce of silver in London, excepting the years 1918-22, inclusive, and 1931-42, for which the means of the New York bid and asked prices were used.

Section 5.—Production of Fuels

THE COAL DEPOSITS AND COAL RESOURCES OF CANADA*

The Origin of Coal

The coals of Canada range in physical appearance from soft, friable, brown, peaty material in which the leaf, plant and tree fragments are distinctly discernible, and in some cases separable, to hard compact steel grey to jet black mineral fuel having a conchoidal fracture in which none of the original vegetable structure can be recognized. For many years the hard dense coals were regarded as of non-vegetable origin, and it is only within recent years, with the perfecting of the process of making thin sections of these hard coals, that their vegetal constitution has been satisfactorily proved. It is now generally accepted that all coals have been formed from ancient swamp vegetation which, like that of our present-day peat bogs, either grew on the spot now occupied by the coal deposits or were floated into it from an outside source and deposited in water close to land. For this reason coal deposits are always associated with sediments of fresh or brackish water origin and in some areas the individual beds or "seams" are traceable for great distances.

The presence of a clay bed at the base of a coal seam containing rootlets indicates that the coal has been formed from vegetation that grew *in situ*, whereas the absence of such a clay floor, a marked irregularity in the thickness of the coal deposit within short distances, and the presence in the coal seam of large boulders and pebbles or other foreign material, point to the coal deposit having been formed of vegetation that was rafted into the basin, the boulders and gravel having been carried along by the roots of trees. With few exceptions, a coal seam may be

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