

high grade iron ore to a depth of 220 feet. In 1946, drilling was commenced on the Ferriman and Ruth Lake deposits, and subsequently an extensive drilling program has been in progress and adits have been driven into the deposits. In March, 1948, it was reported that 41,000,000 tons of potential high-grade iron ore had been proved on the property of Labrador Mining and Exploration Company and 98,000,000 tons on the property of Hollinger North Shore Mining Company. The ore deposits under active investigation are so situated and of such a character as to admit of open-pit mining.

In 1947, transportation facilities into this area were improved by the construction of an air strip at Knob Lake, Que. Canada granted a charter to the Quebec North Shore and Labrador Railway Company permitting railway construction from the St. Lawrence River to the iron-bearing belt and along it to Ungava Bay. The distance from Seven Islands on the St. Lawrence to Ruth Lake is about 360 miles.

The iron-bearing belt, as mapped by Dr. Low, extends north-northwesterly beyond the Hollinger North Shore Exploration Company's concession in Quebec, for about 150 miles. Reports that have been made by companies with holdings in this area confirm the findings of Dr. Low, and indicate that the areas embrace ground that is geologically favourable for the occurrence of iron ore.

Section 2.—Summary of Mineral Production

The importance of mineral production as compared with other primary industries in Canada is indicated in Chapter XXVI while its part in the foreign trade of Canada is dealt with in Chapter XXI, Part II, especially Section 3, Subsections 2 and 3.

Subsection 1.—Value and Volume of Mineral Production

Historical Statistics.—Definite records of the annual value of mineral production go back to 1886 only, although actual production began with the earliest settlements. The figures given in Table 2 are not strictly comparable throughout the whole period, minor changes having been adopted in methods of computing both the metallic content of ores sold and the valuations of the products. Earlier methods resulted in a somewhat higher value than those now in use would have shown. However, the changes do not interfere with the general usefulness of the figures in showing the broad trends in the mineral industry.

2.—Value of Mineral Production, 1886-1947

Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita
	\$	\$		\$	\$		\$	\$
1886.....	10,221,255	2.23	1930.....	279,873,578	27.42	1938.....	441,823,237	39.62
1890.....	16,763,353	3.51				1939.....	474,602,059	42.12
1895.....	20,505,917	4.08	1931 ¹	230,434,726	22.21	1940.....	529,825,035	46.55
1900.....	64,420,877	12.15	1932.....	191,228,225	18.19	1941.....	560,241,290	48.69
1905.....	69,078,999	11.51	1933.....	221,495,253	20.83	1942.....	566,768,672	48.63
1910.....	106,823,623	15.29	1934.....	194,110,968	18.07	1943.....	530,053,966	44.87
1915.....	137,109,171	17.18	1935.....	312,344,457	28.80	1944.....	485,819,114	40.57
1920.....	227,859,665	26.63	1936.....	361,919,372	33.05	1945.....	498,755,181	41.15
1925.....	226,583,333	24.38	1937.....	457,359,092	41.41	1946.....	502,816,251	40.86
						1947 ²	619,133,429	49.21

¹ Beginning with 1931, exchange equalization on gold production is included. revision.

² Subject to