

Gold was again the leading mineral in terms of output value in 1951. The price of gold in Canadian dollars ranged from \$37.50 to \$35.80 per oz t., the nominal average being \$36.82 per oz t. compared with \$38.05 in 1950. The lower price, combined with lower volume, resulted in a drop of nearly \$10,000,000 in the total value of the 1951 output.

The gain of 18 p.c. in the value of mineral fuels to \$238,000,000 was due almost entirely to the tremendous increase in production of crude petroleum in Alberta. The output of crude oil totalled 48,000,000 bbl. compared with 29,000,000 bbl. for 1950, and the value was up 43 p.c. to \$121,000,000. Coal production was slightly lower than in 1950.

Structural materials were in greater demand throughout 1951. Output of cement totalled 16,900,000 bbl. valued at \$40,200,000, a new record in tonnage and value. Lime production was up 16 p.c. in value to \$14,200,000 from 1950; clay products, which include brick, tile, sewer pipe, etc., were valued at \$23,600,000, a gain of 8 p.c. over 1950. Stone for buildings, monuments, railway ballast, etc., was valued at \$24,600,000 in 1951 and sand and gravel, mainly for highway construction, totalled \$43,000,000.

In the non-metallic mineral group in 1951, the output of asbestos, the principal item, was up 10 p.c. in tonnage and 20 p.c. in value to 967,000 tons at \$78,800,000. Production of salt increased 12 p.c. to 962,000 tons, a large part being for use in making chemicals. Sulphur in the form of pyrites and sulphuric acid totalled 368,000 tons, a gain of 22 p.c. over 1950; no elemental sulphur was made in 1951. Fluorspar, mostly from Newfoundland, totalled 87,000 tons, a gain of 35 p.c. Gypsum production was about the same as in 1950.

Capital expenditures in the mining industries increased to \$228,000,000 in 1951 from \$182,000,000 in 1950.

During the past few years, the direction of Canadian exports of the principal base metals has been drastically altered. In 1939 the United States took only 3 p.c. of the aluminum production but took 48 p.c. in 1950; the corresponding rise for copper was from 1 p.c. to 38 p.c., for lead from zero to 91 p.c., and for zinc from 4 p.c. to 74 p.c. In 1951 there was a partial swing back again, but the over-all change is still quite a radical one. The fact appears to be that the United States has become for the first time a substantial importer of these metals to meet a steeply rising consumption as well as for strategic stockpiling.

## 2.—Quantities and Values of Minerals Produced, 1946, 1949 and 1950

Mineral	1946		1949 <sup>1</sup>		1950 <sup>1</sup>	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		\$		\$		\$
<b>Metallics</b>						
Antimony..... lb.	642,145	96,322	158,288	61,020	643,540	215,586
Arsenic (As <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )..... "	745,885	38,264	—	—	—	—
Beryllium ore..... ton	—	—	—	—	20	7,882
Bismuth..... lb.	240,504	336,706	102,913	210,972	191,621	431,147
Cadmium..... "	802,648	979,230	846,541	1,735,409	848,406	1,968,302
Calcium..... "	53,548	68,720	520,609	1,041,218	2	2
Chromite..... ton	3,110	61,123	361	7,148	—	—
Cobalt..... lb.	73,900	70,215	619,065	952,469	583,806	964,003
Copper..... "	367,936,875	46,632,093	526,913,632	104,719,151	528,418,296	123,211,407
Gold..... oz t.	2,832,554	104,096,359	4,123,518	148,446,648	4,441,227	168,988,687
Indium..... "	—	—	689	1,550	4,952	12,083
Iron ore..... ton	1,549,523	6,822,947	3,675,096	21,203,907	3,605,261	23,413,547
Iron ingots..... "	—	—	—	—	1,697	138,284

For footnotes, see end of table.