

Subsection 3.—Production of Metallic Minerals

The metals of chief importance in Canada are copper, gold, iron, lead, nickel, those of the platinum group, silver and zinc. These metals are dealt with individually in the following paragraphs. In addition, there are a number of metals produced in minor quantities, principally as by-products in the treatment of metalliferous ores (see Tables 2 and 6).

Copper.—Copper production declined about 4.5 p.c. in 1952 to 258,000 tons from 270,000 tons in 1951, owing mainly to the closing of the Sherritt Gordon mine on the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border in September 1951. In Nova Scotia, a new mill began operations in April 1952, producing about 416 tons of contained copper before the year-end. In each of the other provinces the tonnage estimated for 1952 was slightly less than that for 1951.

About 48 p.c. of Canada's copper comes from the nickel-copper mines in the Sudbury district of Ontario. Converter copper is produced and further treated at Copper Cliff, and nickel-copper matte produced at Falconbridge is exported to Norway for refining. Mines in northern Quebec account for 26 p.c. of Canada's copper output. These ores are treated at Noranda to produce copper anodes which are shipped to Montreal for refining. Mines in the Flin Flon area of northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan accounted for 16 p.c. of the 1952 copper production. As already mentioned, Sherritt Gordon Mines Limited ceased operations completely at Sherridon, Man., in September 1951 and expect to be in full operation at Lynn Lake, Man., in the latter part of 1953. Lynn Lake copper concentrates will be processed at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta., where a \$17,000,000 refinery is under construction, also scheduled for operation in the last quarter of 1953. British Columbia mines account annually for about 8 p.c. of Canada's copper, and concentrates produced in that area are exported to the United States for treatment. Concentrates from Newfoundland, amounting to about 1 p.c. of the total, are exported to Belgium and to the United States.

Output of refined copper at 197,000 tons in 1952 was about 20 p.c. below the 1951 production. Because of a strike at a Montreal refinery, some blister anodes were exported to the United States for refining.

The use of refined copper in Canada in 1952 was estimated at 132,000 tons, about 60 p.c. being rolled into wire rods and 40 p.c. utilized for brass, bronze and miscellaneous purposes. Exports amounted to 114,000 tons, a 6-p.c. increase over the 107,000 tons exported in the previous year. Shipments to the United Kingdom dropped to 41,600 tons from 52,000 tons in 1951.

7.—Copper Production, by Province, with Total Value, 1943-52

NOTE.—Figures for 1866-1910, inclusive, will be found in the 1916-17 Year Book, p. 272; for 1911-28 in the 1939 edition, p. 335; and for 1929-42 in the 1946 edition, p. 331.

Year	Newfoundland	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	British Columbia	Canada	
							Quantity	Value
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	\$
1943.....	...	65,582	138,920	19,007	42,974	21,112	287,595	67,170,601
1944.....	...	54,027	142,654	21,939	36,757	18,152	273,535 ¹	65,257,172 ¹
1945.....	...	51,342	119,726	20,563	32,950	12,876	237,457	59,322,261
1946.....	...	34,899	89,712	19,250	31,356	8,750	183,968	46,632,093
1947.....	...	42,561	113,934	15,316	33,151	20,900	225,862	91,541,888
1948.....	...	48,813	120,383	18,960	31,074	21,502	240,732	107,159,756
1949.....	3,617	67,822	113,042	16,960	34,960	27,055	263,457	104,719,151
1950.....	3,221	72,891	117,210	20,817	28,982	21,066	264,209	123,211,407
1951.....	2,899	68,866	128,808	15,839	31,625	21,932	269,971 ²	149,026,216 ²
1952 ²	2,848	68,299	124,737	9,190	30,356	21,857	257,707 ²	147,849,770 ²

¹ Includes 6 tons valued at \$1,428 produced in N.W.T. in 1944 and 1 ton valued at \$536 in 1951. ² Includes 416 tons valued at \$237,387 produced in Nova Scotia and 2 tons valued at \$1,427 produced in N.W.T.