

# CHAPTER XI.—MINES AND MINERALS

## CONSPECTUS

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NOTE.—*The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.*

## Section 1.—Canada's Mineral Resources

The tremendous expansion that has taken place in Canada's mineral industry from the end of World War II to 1951 is reviewed in the 1952-53 Year Book, pp. 476-495. The information is brought up to June 1953 in the 1954 Year Book, pp. 482-506, and is continued to June 1954 in the following article.

### DEVELOPMENTS IN CANADA'S MINERAL INDUSTRY, JULY 1953 TO JUNE 1954\*

In 1953, three years after it had attained the billion dollar goal in the annual value of its output, Canada's mineral industry had covered one-third of the intervening distance to a new goal of two billion dollars, preliminary value of output in 1953 being \$1,331,211,503. Whether this rate of growth would continue, and the industry would reach this new goal in another six years, was somewhat uncertain at the close of the present review period (June 1954). Year by year since 1944 when the output was valued at \$485,819,114 the industry has been setting new records. Rising metal prices have contributed notably during the post-war period to the annual production increases. Copper, for instance, rose from an average of 12·67 cents a pound in 1946 to a post-war peak average of 29·93 cents in 1953; nickel from 31·50 cents to 55·87 cents in the same period; zinc from 7·81 cents in 1946 to a post-war peak average of 19·90 cents in 1951; and lead from 6·75 cents to 18·40 cents in the same period. The main contributing factor, however, has been the increase in crude-oil production following the discovery of the Leduc field

\* Prepared under the direction of Marc Boyer, Deputy Minister, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, as follows: Introduction, Metals and Coal by G. H. Murray, Chief, Editorial and Information Division, and Mrs. M. J. Giroux of the Editorial Staff; Industrial Minerals by M. F. Goudge, Chief, Industrial Minerals Division; and Petroleum and Natural Gas by Dr. G. S. Hume, Director General of Scientific Services.