

The increase in the value of mineral production since the end of World War II has been phenomenal, having more than tripled since 1947. Production per head of the population advanced from \$51.38 in that year to \$128.58 in 1956. Although part of this increase is accounted for by advanced prices, the index of the volume of output from Canadian mines records an advance from 106.2 (1935-39=100) to 272.5 in the same comparison (see Table 4).

### 1.—Value of Mineral Production 1886-1956

Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita
	\$	\$		\$	\$		\$	\$
1886.....	10,221,255	2.23	1933.....	221,495,253	20.83	1945.....	498,755,181	41.32
1890.....	16,763,353	3.51	1934.....	278,161,590	25.90	1946.....	502,816,251	40.91
1895.....	20,505,917	4.08	1935.....	312,344,457	28.80	1947.....	644,869,975	51.38
1900.....	64,420,877	12.15	1936.....	361,919,372	33.05	1948.....	820,248,865	63.97
1905.....	69,078,999	11.51	1937.....	457,359,092	41.41	1949 <sup>a</sup> .....	901,110,026	67.01
1910.....	106,823,623	15.29	1938.....	441,823,237	39.62	1950.....	1,045,450,073	76.24
1915.....	137,109,171	17.18	1939.....	474,602,059	42.12	1951.....	1,245,483,595	88.33
1920.....	227,859,665	26.63	1940.....	529,825,035	46.55	1952.....	1,285,342,353	89.07
1925.....	226,583,333	24.38	1941.....	560,241,290	48.69	1953.....	1,336,303,503	90.40
1930.....	279,873,578	27.42	1942.....	566,768,672	48.63	1954.....	1,488,382,091	96.59
1931 <sup>1</sup> .....	230,434,726	22.21	1943.....	530,053,966	44.94	1955.....	1,795,310,796	114.37
1932.....	191,228,225	18.19	1944.....	485,819,114	40.67	1956.....	2,067,699,096	128.58

<sup>1</sup> Beginning with 1931, exchange equalization on gold production is included. production included from 1949.

<sup>2</sup> Value of Newfoundland

**Current Production.**—Continuation of the remarkable expansion in the crude petroleum and iron ore industries, a substantial gain in copper production and smaller gains for most of the other minerals brought the 1956 value of mineral production in Canada above the two billion dollar mark for the first time. The total of \$2,067,700,000 was 15.2 p.c. higher than the 1955 value of output and almost double the figure for 1950. Crude petroleum was far in the lead in gross value of output at \$401,800,000, copper retained second place at \$291,500,000 and nickel was again in third place at \$223,300,000. Iron ore at \$156,300,000 displaced gold in fourth position, the latter dropping to fifth place at \$150,800,000. Next in the ten leading minerals was zinc at \$125,500,000, asbestos at \$109,700,000, coal at \$95,500,000, cement at \$77,900,000 and sand and gravel at \$72,600,000. The 1956 figures on uranium production do not reflect the full impact of the tremendous developments in uranium mining across the country. Four mills were in operation for the full year and two others came into production during the year. The value of \$39,600,000 represented shipments from the refinery at Port Hope, Ont.

The output for metals alone was \$1,134,400,000, up \$126,500,000 or 12.6 p.c. from the 1955 total. Only six of the 23 metals listed showed declines in quantity output compared with the previous year—antimony, gold, lead, magnesium, platinum, palladium and bismuth. Copper output reached a record of 353,000 tons, 8.4 p.c. more than in 1955 and 7.8 p.c. greater than the former high of 328,000 established in 1940. Nickel production was also the greatest on record at 178,000 tons, 1.8 p.c. above the 1955 output. The world supply of nickel, of which Canada's share amounts to about 65 p.c., has been unable to keep up with demands, and wide-spread exploration and development programs have been carried out by leading Canadian producers, an interest intensified by recent price advances. Shipments of iron ore increased 6,200,000 tons to an all-time high of 22,500,000, an advance which has probably raised Canada to fourth place among the iron ore