

**Metals of the Platinum Group.**—Production in 1958 was well below the peak of 1957 and since prices of these metals declined during the year, the value dropped to little more than half that of the previous year. The whole production comes from the nickel-copper ores at Sudbury, Ont., and the metals are recovered in the form of residues in the electrolytic refinery tanks at Port Colborne, Ont., and at the refinery in Norway to which the Falconbridge Nickel Company Limited ships nickel-copper matte.

#### 15.—Quantity and Value of Platinum and Palladium<sup>1</sup> Produced, 1949-58

NOTE.—Figures from 1921 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1940 edition.

Year	Platinum		Palladium <sup>1</sup>		Year	Platinum		Palladium <sup>1</sup>	
	oz. t.	\$	oz. t.	\$		oz. t.	\$	oz. t.	\$
1949.....	153,784	11,603,002	182,233	8,289,915	1954....	154,356	12,950,469	189,350	7,956,087
1950.....	124,571	10,255,929	148,741	7,578,144	1955....	170,494	14,747,732	214,252	8,321,633
1951.....	153,483	14,542,515	164,905	7,950,107	1956 <sup>r</sup> ...	151,357	15,725,992	163,451	6,681,098
1952.....	122,317	10,916,792	157,407	7,559,109	1957....	199,565	17,835,124	216,582	7,896,209
1953.....	137,545	12,550,981	166,018	7,495,409	1958 <sup>p</sup> ...	144,565	9,277,140	150,720	4,491,809

<sup>1</sup> Includes also iridium, rhodium, ruthenium.

#### Subsection 4.—Production of Non-metallic Minerals (excluding Fuels)

Asbestos is by far the most important item in this group in point of value, followed by salt, gypsum and sulphur. These four items are discussed separately below; the quantity and value of other non-metallic minerals produced are shown in Table 2, p. 521.

**Asbestos.**—There was a 10-p.c. decline in the tonnage of asbestos produced in 1958 as compared with the high point of 1957, and an 8-p.c. decrease in value. Quebec with eight producing mines accounted for 94.5 p.c. of the Canadian total, Ontario had one producer which recorded an output of 21,539 tons and one mine in British Columbia produced 30,045 tons. Asbestos is used to make fire-resistant cloth, brake linings, gaskets, siding and shingles, insulated pipe covering, and fire-resistant paper.

#### 16.—Quantity and Value of Asbestos Produced, 1949-58

NOTE.—Figures from 1896 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1911 edition.

Year	Quantity	Value	Year	Quantity	Value
	tons	\$		tons	\$
1949.....	574,906	39,746,072	1954.....	924,116	86,409,212
1950.....	875,344	65,854,568	1955.....	1,063,802	96,191,317
1951.....	973,198	81,584,345	1956 <sup>r</sup> ...	1,014,249	99,859,969
1952.....	929,339	89,254,913	1957.....	1,046,086	104,489,431
1953.....	911,226	86,052,895	1958 <sup>p</sup> ...	942,135	96,168,029

**Salt.**—The production of salt in 1958 reached the record amount of 1,863,866 tons, a 5.2-p.c. increase in tonnage over 1957 and a 6.7-p.c. increase in value. The only producing province to record a decrease was Nova Scotia where output was reduced by nearly 15,000 tons between 1956 and 1958. Brine wells are operated in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta and rock salt is mined in Nova Scotia and Ontario only.