**Current Production.**—A general review of mineral production during 1958 and 1959 is given at pp. 537-557. As stated there, the value of mineral commodities produced reached a new high in 1959 when it amounted to almost $2,390,000,000. This was an increase of 13.7 p.c. over the value of $2,101,000,000 in 1958 and of 9.1 p.c. over the previous peak of $2,190,000,000 attained in 1957. The greatest gains over 1958 were: nickel, $63,000,000; iron ore, $60,000,000; copper, $59,000,000; uranium, $45,000,000; petroleum, $28,000,000; and asbestos, $14,000,000.

The value of all metals produced amounted to $1,359,000,000 compared with $1,130,000,000 in 1958. Uranium retained first place among them with a value of over $324,000,000 and nickel second place with a value of $257,000,000. An increase in both tonnage and price brought the value of copper up to $233,000,000. Iron ore shipments, amounting to 24,500,000 tons valued at $186,000,000, attained a new high. Less gold was produced and the price was lower but silver gained slightly in both quantity and value. Lead and zinc producers reduced their shipments to an over-supplied market, although the value of zinc increased by 4.4 p.c.

The non-metallic group of minerals also increased in value—from $150,000,000 in 1958 to $176,000,000 in 1959. The major contributions to the advance were made by asbestos, the quantity of which exceeded 1,000,000 tons for the first time and the value of which reached $106,600,000. Crude gypsum output in the Maritime Provinces increased substantially, the value showing a 71.3-p.c. increase. Output of salt, augmented by the production of two new mines, increased 36.1 p.c. in volume to exceed 3,200,000 tons and 16.5 p.c. in value to $17,462,000.

The value of mineral fuels produced was $540,100,000, an increase of about $30,000,000 over 1958. Crude petroleum amounted to nearly 185,000,000 bbl. and there were 428,000,000,000 cu. feet of natural gas utilized. Coal shipments, on the other hand, declined by over 1,000,000 tons.

Structural materials were produced at about the same level as in recent preceding years. An upward trend was noticeable in clay products, sand and gravel but stone output moved downward.

**2.—Quantity and Value of Minerals Produced, 1957-59**

| Mineral | 1957 | | 1958 | | 1959[p] | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value |
| | | $ | | $ | | $ |
| **Metallics** | ... | **1,159,579,226** | ... | **1,130,160,395** | ... | **1,359,032,024** |
| Antimony lb. | 1,360,731 | 370,442 | 858,633 | 284,208 | 1,614,000 | 516,126 |
| Bismuth " | 319,941 | 584,917 | 412,792 | 771,267 | 415,909 | 883,296 |
| Cadmium " | 2,368,130 | 4,025,821 | 1,756,050 | 2,669,195 | 2,059,731 | 2,636,456 |
| Calcium " | 221,225 | 282,378 | 25,227 | 31,256 | 71,610 | 82,197 |
| Cobalt " | 3,922,649 | 7,784,423 | 2,710,429 | 5,308,298 | 3,298,328 | 5,927,003 |
| Copper " | 718,218,535 | 206,897,988 | 690,227,408 | 174,430,930 | 789,785,183 | 233,296,375 |
| Gold oz. t. | 4,433,894 | 148,757,143 | 4,571,347 | 155,334,370 | 4,444,845 | 149,213,447 |
| Indium " | 384,360 | 693,770 | — | — | — | — |
| Iron ore ton | 22,272,174 | 167,221,425 | 15,726,323 | 126,131,181 | 24,477,004 | 186,206,552 |
| Iron, remelt " | 187,529 | 10,083,434 | ... | 5,120,620 | ... | 7,587,000 |
| Lead lb. | 362,968,529 | 50,670,407 | 373,360,966 | 42,413,805 | 372,989,560 | 39,574,191 |
| Magnesium " | 16,770,371 | 5,254,896 | 13,591,705 | 4,064,825 | 11,633,213 | 3,489,964 |
| Molybdenum " | 783,739 | 1,166,557 | 888,264 | 1,152,838 | 850,000 | 1,105,000 |
| Nickel " | 375,916,551 | 258,977,309 | 279,117,422 | 194,142,019 | 370,246,434 | 257,173,340 |
| Palladium, iridium, etc. oz. t. | 216,582 | 7,896,209 | 154,366 | 4,840,072 | 170,160 | 5,662,499 |
| Platinum " | 199,565 | 17,835,124 | 146,092 | 9,481,371 | 149,510 | 10,951,608 |
| Selenium lb. | 321,392 | 3,535,312 | 306,990 | 2,302,426 | 564,415 | 3,849,905 |
| Silver oz. t. | 28,823,298 | 25,182,915 | 31,163,470 | 27,053,007 | 32,329,137 | 28,381,750 |
| Tellurium lb. | 31,524 | 55,167 | 38,250 | 65,025 | 96,954 | 208,401 |
| Thorium " | — | — | — | — | 54,037 | 116,141 |
| Tin " | 709,102 | 580,342 | 795,496 | 625,260 | 896,000 | 931,840 |
| Titanium ore ton | 10,770 | 97,075 | — | — | 24,000 | 126,000 |
| Tungsten ($WO_3$) lb. | 1,921,483 | 5,279,275 | 690,976 | 1,898,455 | — | — |
| Uranium ($U_3O_8$) " | 13,271,414 | 136,304,364 | 26,805,232 | 279,538,471 | 30,993,754 | 324,549,609 |
| Zinc " | 827,481,656 | 100,042,533 | 850,197,572 | 92,501,496 | 788,916,041 | 96,563,324 |