

### Subsection 3.—Production of Metallic Minerals

The metallic minerals of greatest dollar value in Canada during 1959 were, in order: uranium, nickel, copper, iron ore, gold, zinc, lead and silver. This order remained unchanged from 1958, each of these metals, with the exception of gold and lead, having advanced considerably in value of production. The value of uranium produced was still well ahead of nickel, which was in second place, but its \$85,000,000 lead attained in 1958 was reduced to \$67,000,000. Developments taking place in metal mining during 1958 and 1959 are dealt with in Section 1 at pp. 538-548. The following statistical information gives a comparison of quantity and value figures for each of the principal metals over the ten-year period 1950-59.

**Uranium.**—Uranium mineralization has been found in Canada at intervals along the western and southern edges of the Canadian Shield but production is concentrated in four areas within this belt—Great Bear Lake in the Northwest Territories, Beaverlodge in northern Saskatchewan, and Elliot Lake and Bancroft in Ontario. Although output of uranium first began in the Northwest Territories in 1942, figures were not available until 1954 because of government restrictions. However, it is since that time that the large mines and mills of Saskatchewan and Ontario have come into production. Ontario in 1959 contributed 81 p.c. of the total value of production, the great mines and mills of the Elliot Lake area constituting the largest uranium-producing camp in the world.

#### 7.—Production and Value of Uranium (U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>), by Province, 1954-59

Year	Ontario		Saskatchewan		Northwest Territories		Canada	
	Quantity <sup>1</sup>	Value	Quantity <sup>1</sup>	Value	Quantity <sup>1</sup>	Value	Quantity <sup>1</sup>	Value
	lb.	\$	lb.	\$	lb.	\$	lb.	\$
1954.....	—	—	..	10,981,417	..	15,486,157	..	26,467,574
1955.....	..	487,054	..	12,312,471	..	13,232,079	..	26,031,604
1956.....	906,614	9,361,867	2,780,534	27,194,202	873,912	9,176,076	4,561,060	45,732,145
1957.....	7,970,598	82,940,763	4,462,552	44,561,832	838,264	8,801,769	13,271,414	136,304,364
1958.....	19,970,136	210,149,700	5,924,253	59,815,924	910,843	9,572,847	26,805,232	279,538,471
1959 <sup>p</sup> .....	24,797,206	262,917,645	5,351,145	54,068,000	845,403	7,563,964	30,993,754	324,549,609

<sup>1</sup> Figures for 1956 include radium salts, silver, cobalt and uranium oxides; figures for 1957-59 are for uranium oxide (U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>).

**Nickel.**—The output of nickel reached an all-time high in 1957, both in quantity and value, dropped considerably in 1958 when a rise in world stocks brought about a decrease in nickel prices, but recovered in 1959 with output figures close to the 1957 level. About 93 p.c. of the 1959 production shown in Table 8 came from the Sudbury area of Ontario, about 5 p.c. from Lynn Lake in Manitoba and the remainder from Rankin Inlet on Hudson Bay in the Northwest Territories and from Hope, B.C.

Canada uses only about 4,000 tons of refined nickel annually. Exports amounted to 102,000 tons in 1959, mostly to the United States, and exports of nickel in matte, etc., amounted to 65,600 tons.

#### 8.—Quantity and Value of Nickel Produced, 1950-59

NOTE.—Figures from 1889 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1929 edition.

Year	Quantity		Value		Year	Quantity		Value	
	tons	\$	tons	\$		tons	\$	tons	\$
1950.....	123,659	112,104,685	1955.....	174,928	215,866,007				
1951.....	137,903	151,269,994	1956.....	178,515	222,204,860				
1952.....	140,559	151,349,438	1957.....	187,958	258,977,309				
1953.....	143,643	160,430,098	1958.....	139,559	194,142,019				
1954.....	166,299	180,173,392	1959 <sup>p</sup> .....	185,123	257,173,340				

**Copper.**—Although the quantity of copper produced in Canada reached its peak in 1959, the total value for that year was lower than that of smaller quantities produced in 1955 and 1956. Among the provinces, the only reduction in tonnage in 1959 was shown