

CHAPTER XI.—MINES AND MINERALS

CONSPECTUS

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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 Industry 1960-61*

The Canadian mineral industry in 1960 and on into 1961 experienced steady and diversified growth in developing known deposits for production. However, recent growth in mineral output has been comparatively small. The 1960 value of mineral production at \$2,492,509,981 was only slightly higher than the previous year's record high of \$2,409,020,511 and another slight increase of 3.2 p.c. to \$2,573,782,838 was recorded in 1961. Production of mineral fuels registered a significant advance from \$565,851,829 in 1960 to \$643,425,160 in 1961 and industrial mineral production advanced to a new high of \$533,343,589 from \$520,100,091. On the other hand, metallic minerals recorded the first decline in several years, production decreasing slightly from \$1,406,558,061 to \$1,397,014,089. Major increases for petroleum, nickel and natural gas were nearly offset by greatly reduced shipments of uranium (U₃O₈) and smaller reductions in shipments of several other minerals.

From 1950 to 1960 the value of Canada's mineral production increased nearly two and one-half times from \$1,045,000,000. Each of the three sectors of the industry registered marked growth—metals increased in value from \$617,000,000 to \$1,407,000,000, industrial minerals from \$227,000,000 to \$520,000,000 and mineral fuels from \$201,000,000 to \$566,000,000. During this period the per capita value of production increased from \$76.21 to \$139.48. Compared with the 1950's, there has been relatively little progress in terms of value of mineral production over the past three years but much has been accomplished during this plateau of output that will result in the broadening of Canada's mineral industry base and in diversification of output in the years ahead. During 1961, some mining projects that had been under development for several years reached production and others continued to be prepared for operation within the next few years. Prospecting and exploration of mineral occurrences were at an increased tempo, significant discoveries were made and property developments of major importance were undertaken.

* Prepared under the direction of Dr. Marc Boyer, Deputy Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys, Ottawa, in the following Divisions: Introduction and Subsections 1 and 3 by the Mineral Resources Division; Subsection 2 by the Mineral Processing Division, Mines Branch; and Subsection 4 by the Fuels and Mining Practice Division, Mines Branch.