Cobalt in northern Ontario, soon followed by the discovery of many other major mining areas including the Porcupine gold mining camp in 1909 and Kirkland Lake in 1911. While exploration was continuing in northern Ontario and Quebec, leading to the Noranda copper find in the Rouyn district in 1921, oil and gas exploration in Western Canada resulted in the discovery of the important Turner Valley fleld near Calgary in 1913. The introduction of aircraft in mineral exploration in Northern Canada in the 1920s was a key factor in the discovery of pitchblende, a source of radium and uranium, at Great Bear Lake in the Northwest Territories in 1930, and in the finding of a number of gold and base metal deposits in the northern areas of the provinces, the Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory in the 1930s. The Leduc oil discovery in Alberta in 1947 was the beginning of Canada's present oil industry, one of the most thriving sectors of the mineral economy.

Since the immediate postwar period, mineral discoveries have been made in almost every region of Canada and the industry's rapid growth and increasing diversification have had a profound effect on the Canadian economy. The value of mineral output has risen from about $500,000,000 in 1945 to just over $1,000,000,000 in 1950 and to nearly $4,000,000,000 in 1966. Canada now ranks as the world's third largest diversified mineral producer following the United States and the Soviet Union and is the world's largest exporter of minerals and mineral products.

The historical trend of the value of mineral production is shown in Table 1. Statistics are available from 1886 and are given for five-year intervals from that date to 1950 and annually for subsequent years. These figures are not strictly comparable throughout the period because of minor changes in methods of computing metallic content of ores sold and valuations of products but serve as a measure of the tremendous growth of this major industry.

1.—Value of Mineral Production, 1886-1966

Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita
	$	$		$	$		$	$
1886	10,221,255	2.23	1935	312,344,457	28.84	1957	2,190,322,392	131.87
1890	16,763,353	3.51	1940	529,825,035	46.55	1958	2,100,739,038	122.99
1895	20,505,917	4.08	1945	498,755,181	41.31	1959	2,409,020,511	137.79
1900	64,420,877	12.15	1950[1]	1,045,450,073	76.24	1960	2,492,509,981	139.48
1905	69,078,999	11.51	1951	1,245,483,595	88.90	1961	2,582,300,387	141.59
1910	106,823,623	15.29	1952	1,285,342,353	88.90	1962	2,850,986,179	153.42
1915	137,109,171	17.18	1953	1,336,303,503	90.02	1963	3,050,428,547	161.13
1920	227,859,665	26.63	1954	1,488,382,091	97.36	1964r	3,390,971,534	175.79
1925	226,583,333	24.38	1955	1,795,310,796	114.37	1965	3,745,470,821	190.67
1930	279,873,578	27.42	1956	2,084,905,554	129.65	1966	3,972,480,919	198.48

[1] Value of Newfoundland production included from 1949.

The Mineral Industry in 1966

The Canadian mineral industry had another year of outstanding achievement in 1966 and established a new high in value of output. Exploration for new deposits and development of properties for production was extensive and widespread in all provinces and in the territories, and announcements were made of new projects and expansions that will increase appreciably the productive capacities for many commodities. Canada's mineral base thus becomes stronger each year, as diversification in output both by commodity and by source increases. The value of total mineral production in 1966 was $3,972,481,000 compared with $3,745,471,000 in 1965, an increase of 6 p.c. The metallics sector accounted for $76,797,000 of the increase, the industrial minerals, including structural materials and non-metallics, for $76,096,000, and mineral fuels for $74,118,000.