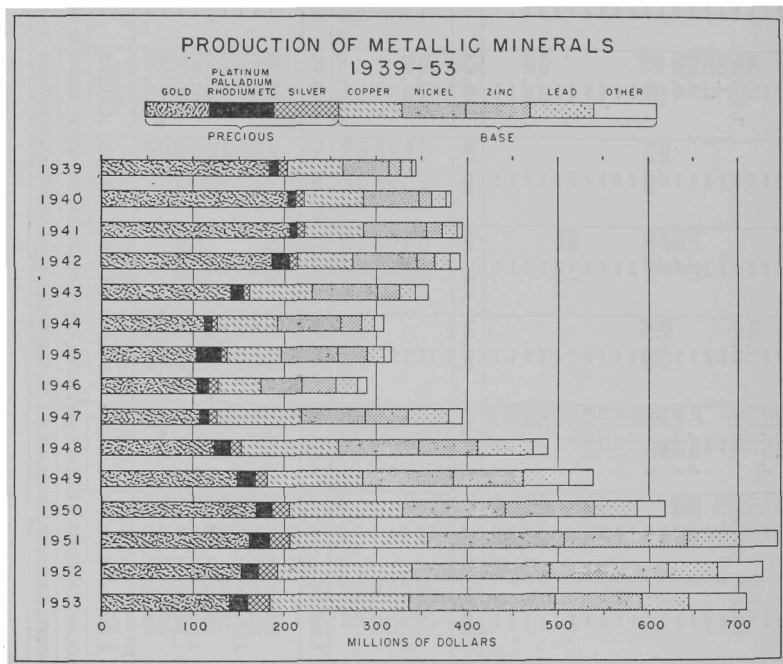


Subsection 3.—Production of Metallic Minerals

The metals of chief importance in Canada are nickel, copper, gold, zinc, lead, iron, silver and those of the platinum group. These metals are dealt with individually in the following paragraphs. In addition, there are a number of metals produced in minor quantities, principally as by-products in the treatment of metalliferous ores (see Tables 2 and 6).



Nickel.—The total value of nickel produced in 1953 exceeded the value of gold for the first time since 1920. The total 1953 value of \$160,900,000 included refined nickel, nickel in oxides and salts, and nickel in matte exported. Export shipments amounted to 79,900 tons of refined nickel and 63,900 tons of nickel in matte.

The two principal producers, International Nickel Company of Canada Limited and Falconbridge Mines Limited operated at capacity during the year. Both have substantial expansions under way to meet long-term contracts for the United States Government as well as for expanding domestic demands. Three new mines in the Sudbury area of Ontario—East Rim Nickel Mines, Milnet Mines and Nickel Offsets Limited—shipped ore or concentrates to the Falconbridge smelter. In Manitoba, the railroad to the Lynn Lake nickel-copper project of Sherritt Gordon Mines Limited was completed in November 1953 and the first shipments of nickel moved early in 1954.