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## CONTENTS

	Page
Annual Report of the State Mineralogist, Chief of the Division of Mines	9
California Mineral Commodities in 1955 and 1954	67
Metal and Mineral Review for 1956	177



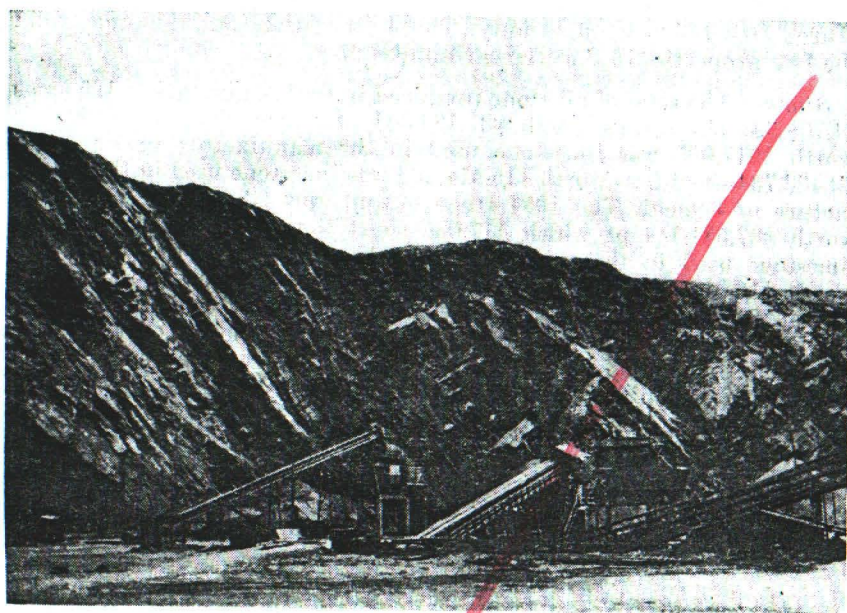


FIGURE 10. View showing steeply dipping beds of Franciscan sandstone and interbedded shale with new crushing unit in left middle ground. Blake Brothers quarry, Contra Costa County.

The industrial limestone and marble produced in California in 1955 (exclusive of the quantity used in the manufacture of cement and lime) totaled 1,336,781 short tons worth \$4,643,487. Industrial limestone includes material used as a flux in refractories, in the manufacture of sugar, in paint whiting, in asphalt, in agriculture, as a poultry grit and stock food, as roofing granules, in stucco dash, in terrazzo and for other uses. The 1955 production came from properties in El Dorado, Monterey, Riverside, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Tuolumne and Ventura Counties. Part of the material from San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties and that from Ventura County was shells. The limestone produced in 1954 totaled 1,311,314 short tons worth \$4,271,102 and came from the same counties reporting in 1955, plus Shasta County.

Other dimension stone produced in 1955 in California totaled 21,234 short tons worth \$341,597, compared with 7,305 short tons worth \$61,278 in 1954. The latter material included rhyolite tuff from El Dorado County, volcanic rock from Kern County, mica schist and silicified diatomite from Los Angeles County, indurated shale from Monterey County, rhyolite from San Bernardino County, and Santa Clara County, and banded rhyolite from Sonoma County.

**Strontium.** During 1955 a small amount of celestite (strontium sulfate) was produced and shipped from a property in the Cady Mountains, San Bernardino County. The production in 1954 came from the Fish Creek Mountains, Imperial County.

**Sulfur.** During 1955 sulfur ore was shipped from the Leviathan mine in Alpine County and one mine in Inyo County totaling 199,599

long tons, compared with 185,085 long tons from the same mines in 1954. The 1955 output of sulfur was the largest on record in California. The relatively low grade sulfur ore was manufactured into sulfuric acid at Weed Heights, Nevada, where the acid was used to leach a low grade copper carbonate deposit.

By-product sulfur (brimstone and hydrogen sulfide) from petroleum refineries was produced in California during 1955 totaling 136,792 long tons of contained sulfur worth \$3,829,049, compared with 96,960 long tons of contained sulfur worth \$2,963,410 in 1954. The brimstone was recovered from three plants in Los Angeles County and one plant each in Contra Costa and San Luis Obispo Counties. The hydrogen sulfide was recovered from three plants in Los Angeles County and two in Contra Costa County. The refineries which recovered brimstone did not recover hydrogen sulfide.

**Talc, Pyrophyllite and Soapstone.** The talc, pyrophyllite and soapstone produced in California during 1955 totaled 166,551 short tons worth \$1,552,783, compared with 133,474 short tons worth \$1,211,201 in 1954.

The 1955 quantity and value of crude talc, soapstone and pyrophyllite was the largest of any year on record. The accompanying table reports the 1954 and 1955 talc, pyrophyllite and soapstone output by counties.

*Talc, pyrophyllite and soapstone produced in 1954 and 1955, by counties.*

County	1954		1955	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
Inyo.....	48,481	\$484,106	64,102	\$686,209
San Bernardino.....	55,635	642,524	57,672	664,245
Other counties.....	29,358	84,571	44,777	202,329
Totals.....	133,474	\$1,211,201	166,551	\$1,552,783

<sup>a</sup> Includes El Dorado, Los Angeles, Mono, Riverside, and San Diego Counties.

<sup>b</sup> Includes El Dorado, Los Angeles, Mono, Placer, and San Diego Counties.

The production from Inyo County and most of the production from San Bernardino County was high grade talc. Pyrophyllite came from Mono, Plumas, San Bernardino and San Diego Counties and the soapstone from El Dorado, Los Angeles and Riverside Counties.

During 1955, 69,910 short tons of California's talc was used in ceramics; 41,129 tons of talc, soapstone and pyrophyllite were used in insecticides, and 28,428 short tons of talc and pyrophyllite were used in paint. The remaining production was used in the manufacture of rubber, paper, toilet preparations, stucco, plaster, roofing, rice polishing, textiles and asphalt filler. In 1954 the ceramic industry used 61,800 short tons, the insecticides industry 24,922 short tons, and the paint industry, 25,922 short tons.

**Titanium.** No ilmenite was reported mined during 1954 or 1955. However, shipments were reported during both years from a stockpile of ilmenite sand mined several years ago at Hermosa Beach, Los Angeles County.