

\$46,000,000 in the output of gold, while the value of the production of copper, nickel, lead and zinc, the metals chiefly required for war, showed a substantial increase.

Mining companies have gone far toward satisfying the war demand for base metals which has reached an extraordinarily high level. Only bare minimum supplies of copper, aluminum, nickel and zinc were retained for essential civilian use and the immense quantities produced in Canada were shipped mostly to munition factories of the United Nations. The Canadian output of aluminum supplied 40 p.c. of the war requirements of the Allies. Canada produced about 95 p.c. of the total nickel output of the United Nations, 20 p.c. each of the zinc and the mercury required, 15 p.c. of the lead and 12 p.c. of the copper.

**Electric Power.**—Electric power production reached new high levels during the period under review. New hydro-electric power installations during 1943 totalled about 1,000,000 h.p. bringing Canada's total hydro development to 10,000,000 h.p. The expansion contributed to the successful efforts of hydro-electric industry in meeting the ever-increasing demands for power. Monthly figures of the output of central electric stations indicated that a new record for generation of electricity—more than 40,000,000,000 kwh.—was reached during the year. Although the installation of hydro-electric plants was great, it still left more than 80 p.c. of Canadian water-power resources available for future development.

**Forestry.**—The output of the war requirements of forest products, despite the shortage of manpower, was well maintained in 1943, especially in connection with the construction of aircraft. Newsprint production was about 6 p.c. less at 2,983,000 tons. Newsprint was the first major industry to be concentrated on a continental basis as a result of the joint efforts of Canada and the United States. The move was aimed to facilitate control in allocating tonnage among the various producers. A shortage of newsprint was forecast in view of the plan to restrict production for the conservation of power and to release men for the Armed Forces and the lumber industry. Costs of materials, labour and transportation were greatly in excess of pre-war years, although price control and rationing were a decided help toward keeping costs within bounds.

**Manufactures.**—The achievement of secondary production to meet the needs of war were spectacular and the transfer to a total war economy has been practically completed. The large objectives of war supplies poured from Canadian factories and requirements set for the fourth year of hostilities were reached. It was remarkable that every piece of equipment for which orders had been received in the first three years of war was delivered, and new production levels have been reached in each succeeding year. The war program had at the end of 1933 reached a point where an appraisal was made to decide whether, in the light of present conditions abroad, some important contracts could be reduced or cancelled and thus afford an opportunity for the production of badly needed civilian supplies. Also during 1943-44 revisions have had to be made to meet the needs of the changing pattern of warfare.

**Construction.**—The construction industry was hampered through lack of supplies to meet the need of workers in communities adjacent to expanded industries. When peace comes and war-time restrictions have been removed, there will doubtless materialize a backlog of requirements which will augur well for the post-war period. The new business obtained by the construction industry, as measured by the statistics of contracts awarded and building permits issued, recorded a marked decline in 1943. Revival was shown in the first four months of 1944, the gain in contracts over the same period of 1943 being no less than 44 p.c.