1939, inclusive, Canada exported an average of 90 p.c. of its copper output, and during the years 1940 to 1944, inclusive, it exported an average of 64 p.c., the exports in both cases being mostly in the refined form. In the former period an average of 50 p.c. of the output was shipped to the United Kingdom, 13 p.c. to the United States, and the remainder of the surplus output was shipped mostly to Europe. In the latter period the corresponding figures are 42 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 17 p.c. to the United States.

Making allowance for a substantial increase in the domestic consumption as compared with the pre-war years, Canada is likely to have available for export at least 70 p.c. and probably as much as 80 p.c. of its output. World production and consumption had been fluctuating in an upward direction for several years prior to the War and this trend was continuing upward early in 1946. In the United Kingdom stocks are low mainly as a result of domestic consumption and partly as a result of shipments to European areas, and that country has already placed fairly large orders for Canadian copper.

In Continental Europe there appears to be a large potential demand for copper and for most of the other mine products, but this demand may be slow in developing as there are many difficulties in the way. Much time will be required to restore trade channels. Food is the main consideration of most of these countries at present and will probably continue to be for an indefinite period. The Dominion, prior to the War, shipped only a small percentage of its surplus output to Asiatic countries. In the United States, the demand for the metal has been well ahead of production and that country appears likely to become an important importer. If so, Canada will share in the trade, although Chile is in a more favourable position because of the large American investments in mines in that country.

Nickel.—As Canada is the source of from 80 to 85 p.c. of the world nickel supply, the outlook is governed mainly by the trend of business conditions in general. Present Canadian production capacity amounts to about 160,000 tons of the metal a year but, owing to a decline in nickel sales and the large volume of nickel on hand, International Nickel greatly curtailed its output shortly after the end of the War. This curtailment is expected to be temporary in nature.

Canada uses less than 10 p.c. of its nickel output and will thus have large surpluses available for export. In 1945 the United States steel industry was the chief consumer and used about 60 p.c. of the refined metal exported from Canada in that year. Early in 1946 the American steel industry was operating at about 90 p.c. of rated capacity, and sufficient orders for steel were on hand or in the offing to enable near-capacity operation well into the future. Many war uses of nickel were in industrial equipment converted to war services, and these will now resume their place in peacetime applications. New uses for the metal were developed during the War and these promise to compensate for losses to competitive materials. A marked increase in the use of nickel in the automotive industry is expected. The long-range outlook for the metal is considered to be favourable barring unforeseen developments.

Zinc.—Canada's production of zinc, including the metal content of concentrates, has ranged during the past decade from a low of 167,000 tons in 1936 to a record output of 305,000 tons in 1943. Production in 1945 amounted to 255,000 tons. About 75 p.c. of the total output is refined within the country and the remainder in the form of zinc concentrates is shipped to plants in the United States for treatment. These concentrates come mainly from a mine in British Columbia, another in Manitoba, and from a few properties in Quebec. Prior to the War, Canada