

\$806,000,000. In several of the war years the output had cleared the \$500,000,000 mark, and in 1947 it had jumped to almost \$645,000,000, but the total for 1948 was far beyond any previous figure.

About one-half of this gain in value in 1948 was due to expansion in physical output. From the data available the tonnage of ore raised by Canadian metal mines in 1948 was from 10 to 12 p.c. greater than in the previous year. Output of gold bullion was higher by nearly 14 p.c., zinc increased 12 p.c., copper 6 p.c., lead 4 p.c., and nickel 9 p.c. Amongst the non-metallics there were even greater gains. The tonnage of coal was 16 p.c. above the 1947 figure, asbestos increased by 7 p.c., gypsum 29 p.c., cement 18 p.c. and crude petroleum 57 p.c.

The other chief factor which helped to increase the output value was the further advance in world prices for the principal base metals that constitute a very large part of Canada's mineral output. Quotations for electrolytic copper at New York rose to 23.2 cents before the year-end, and the average for 1948 was approximately 2 cents per lb. higher than in 1947. Lead reached a high of 21.5 cents, and over the year its quotations averaged 4.5 cents per lb. more than in the previous year. Electrolytic zinc rose to 17.5 cents per lb. for a gain of 2.75 cents on the yearly average, and quotations for electrolytic nickel rose to 40 cents per lb. or 5 cents more than the quotations which had prevailed for some months. Most other metals and non-metals were also quoted at higher levels than in 1947.

Each province participated in the 1948 advance in output. In Ontario the gain was 15 p.c. to \$286,000,000 and in Quebec the increase was 28 p.c. to \$147,000,000. Elsewhere in Canada the advances were as follows: British Columbia, 26 p.c. to \$147,000,000; Nova Scotia, 64 p.c. to \$56,000,000; Alberta 37 p.c. to \$93,000,000; Saskatchewan, 6 p.c. to \$34,000,000; Manitoba, 47 p.c. to \$27,000,000; New Brunswick, 26 p.c. to \$7,000,000; the Northwest Territories, 58 p.c. to \$4,300,000, and Yukon, 68 p.c. to \$3,500,000.

For the entire metals group the aggregate value in 1948 was \$484,000,000, or 22 p.c. more than in the previous year. For mineral fuels the advance in value was 44 p.c. to \$159,000,000 and for structural materials it was 17 p.c. to \$99,000,000. Other non-metallics increased 19 p.c. to \$65,000,000.

In placing a value on Canada's mineral production it has been customary to value the metals at average quotations (converted to Canadian funds) on the New York or the London markets, depending usually on the relative exports to the United Kingdom and the United States. In the war years, however, with the inauguration of price controls, it was necessary to depart from this practice, and during this period the average prices were supplied by the Canadian Metals Controller. In 1946 a weighted average was computed by applying the Canadian ceiling prices to the amounts sold for domestic use and the New York averages, in terms of Canadian dollars, to the quantities which were sold for export. A similar procedure was followed in 1947 during the period that price controls were in existence. The domestic ceiling prices on copper, lead and zinc were raised early in 1947 and ceilings were removed entirely about mid-year.