

Poreupine, Kirkland Lake and other mining camps in Ontario; the Premier mine in British Columbia; the Siscoe mine in Quebec; and the Flin Flon mine on the border between Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The next wave of exploration began with the staking of the Horne mine at Noranda, Que., in 1921 and did not subside until the great world-wide depression of the 1930's. Included in what eventuated from this discovery were the gold and base-metal mines of the Noranda-Rouyn, Malartic, and Val d'Or areas of western Quebec; gold camps in the Patricia district of western Ontario; the Sherritt Gordon mine in Manitoba; and the mining of pitchblende at Great Bear Lake in the Northwest Territories.

In 1949 the mining industry's output which comprised 66 different mineral products compared with only about one-half that number 25 years ago was valued at a new peak of \$901,110,000, compared with \$474,602,000 in 1939 and \$64,421,000 in 1900. Canada ranked first in world production of nickel, asbestos, and the platinum metals; second in aluminium (from imported ore, however), zinc, gold, cadmium, selenium (the largest selenium plant in the world is at Montreal, Que.), tellurium and, probably, radium and uranium; third in silver; and fourth in lead, copper, and cobalt.

The strength the Canadian mining industry has acquired in metallic minerals, which in 1949 accounted for 60 p.c. of the total value of mineral output, is reflected in Canada's export trade. Including the credit of \$138,900,000 provided by gold in 1949 in Canada's current account with the United States, exports of non-ferrous metals (excluding aluminium) and their products realized \$471,500,000 (more than 90 p.c. being raw or partly manufactured materials), or slightly over 15 p.c. of the value of total exports in that year. On a value basis, nickel, copper, zinc and lead ranked among the first 13 commodities exported.

The outlook for substantial further progress in Canada's mining industry is unquestionably very encouraging, even when viewed solely in the light of recent discoveries and developments. One of the most important of these is the changing position as regards iron. This originated with the discovery of high-grade hematite at Steep Rock Lake in Ontario and is continuing with preparations for the development of immense deposits of high-grade ore on either side of the boundary between Quebec and the Labrador area of the Province of Newfoundland.

Another development is the greatly increased output of oil as a result of the discovery of the Leduc field near Edmonton, Alta., in February, 1947, and of other fields since then. The oil position of Canada and, perhaps, of the North American Continent will be very greatly changed. A pipe line is under construction from Edmonton to the lakehead at Superior, Wis., U.S.A. (see p. 519), and Canada may become ultimately one of the world's major producers of oil, exporting instead of importing that vital mineral, with, as a consequence, very favourable results to her general well-being nationally and internationally.

Among other significant events of late are:—

(1) The discovery of what is probably the largest known single source of titanium in the world at Lake Allard, Que., near the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, where over 200,000,000 tons of unusually pure ilmenite have been proved, and the projected production from it of titanium dioxide and iron, and later of titanium metal.