

metallurgical plants at Trail where, in 1949, customs shipments from 97 mining properties were also treated. Antimony, bismuth, cadmium, tin and sulphuric acid are obtained as by-products in the mining and smelting of base-metal ores.

Interest in the development of an iron and steel industry is being renewed. Deposits of iron ore on which some work has been done in the past include those at Zeballos, Quinsam Lake, and Texada Island, and there are other known deposits, including a number of magnetite deposits, upon which little or no development work has been done.

Coal is the only fuel currently produced in British Columbia: the Province supplied 10 p.c. of Canada's output in 1949. Interest is being shown, however, in the oil possibilities. Several areas are known to be geologically favourable to the deposition of oil and some serious prospecting and exploration was undertaken in 1949.

Other recent developments in the Province's mining industry include: the production of lead and zinc concentrates by Reeves MacDonald Mines, Limited, near the United States-British Columbia border and by Canadian Exploration, Limited, near Salmo; the commencement of milling in December, 1948, by Torbrit Silver Mines, Limited, which is the Province's leading straight silver producer; trial shipments of perlite rock (a natural volcanic glass) from the deposit under development at François Lake; and the practical recovery of indium at the Trail smelter.

**Yukon.**—Yukon's mineral output in 1949 was valued at \$5,099,000, compared with \$4,961,321 in 1939. The peak was \$22,452,857 in 1900, in which year the output of gold from the famed rich placers of Klondike, discovered in 1896, reached a maximum of 1,077,553 oz. valued at \$22,275,000.

Gold continues to be the leading factor in Yukon's contribution to the value of Canada's mineral output, accounting for \$2,951,000 in 1949, more than one-half of which was credited to the placer operations of the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation, Limited, in the Klondike district near Dawson. Silver ranked next in value, followed by lead and zinc, practically all of which were derived by United Keno Hill Mines, Limited, from the rich deposits of galena on Galena Hill in the Mayo mining district. The source of the small output of coal, 4,000 tons, which was sold for consumption at Dawson, Mayo and Whitehorse, was the Tantalus Bute mine in the Whitehorse mining district.

There has been renewed interest recently in the recovery of native copper from alluvial deposits in the upper White River area.

**Northwest Territories.**—The value of the mineral production of the Northwest Territories in 1949 was \$6,802,000, compared with the previous peak of \$4,267,000 in 1948 and \$3,249,000 in 1939. These values are exclusive of the pitchblende products resulting from the operations of Eldorado Mining and Refining (1944), Limited, a Crown Company, at Port Radium on Great Bear Lake, data concerning which are not available for publication. Gold mines contributed \$6,390,000 to the value in 1949 almost all the remainder being credited to the output of petroleum and natural gas at Norman Wells.

The area of greatest mining activity continues to be the Yellowknife River Valley, where four gold mines are producing—Con-Rycon, Negus, Giant, and Discovery. Milling was initiated at the Discovery mine at the end of 1949. Production