

a higher level of house building activity and the Government adopted a series of measures to encourage residential construction. The statutory interest rate on mortgages coming under the National Housing Act was raised, additional credit arrangements for the construction of rental projects were provided for, and the maximum size of mortgage permitted on homes for home ownership was increased.

Review of Current Expansion.—The significance of the investment programs of 1951 and 1952 can be further illustrated by a review of how some of the more important projects under way contributed to Canada's productive capacity and to the opening up of hitherto undeveloped areas.

The development of Canada's mineral resources proceeded on a broad front. The petroleum industry continued its rapid development originating in the discovery of new oil fields in Alberta in 1947 and 1948. Daily output of crude petroleum rose from 23,000 bbl. in 1945 to 80,000 bbl. in 1950 and to 160,000 bbl. in 1952. Rapid strides were made in the creation of facilities required to bring Ontario, British Columbia and parts of the United States within marketing range. In December 1950, the first crude oil reached the head of the Great Lakes via the new Inter-provincial pipeline and, subsequently, a new fleet of tankers was built to forward the oil to Sarnia, Ont. In 1952, construction was begun on the Transmountain pipeline which will carry Alberta oil to the West Coast. As a result of these and other developments in the marketing and refining of petroleum, about 33 p.c. of Canada's requirements were being met from domestic sources at the end of 1952 compared with 20 p.c. in 1950.

Output of iron ore rose from 3,400,000 tons in 1950 to 5,500,000 tons in 1952 owing mainly to expansion projects in Ontario and Newfoundland. Of even greater potential importance are deposits being opened up on the Labrador-Quebec border. This latter project, involving construction of a 360-mile railroad south to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, is expected to yield 10,000,000 tons or more of high grade ore a year and to raise Canada to the rank of a major net exporter.

Numerous discoveries of ore bodies and strong markets combined to make 1951 and 1952 years of significant expansion in a wide range of other minerals. The deposit of titanium bearing ilmenite at Allard Lake in the Province of Quebec was opened up and a refinery was erected at Sorel, Que.; this is probably the largest known deposit of ilmenite and its development has made Canada a major producer. Zinc mining and refining projects under way or recently completed in British Columbia, Manitoba, Quebec and Nova Scotia will increase potential output by about 85,000 tons over 1950. A large new nickel-copper-cobalt mine was being opened up at Lynn Lake, Man.; this project involves construction of a 155-mile railway and erection of a refinery at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. In addition, a large number of important developments took place which added to productive capacity in asbestos, uranium, tungsten, cobalt and other minerals.

The expansion of the nation's production potential hinges, to some extent, on the availability of large supplies of low cost hydro-electric power. In 1951, installed capacity of electric generating stations was increased by 881,000 h.p. to a total of 13,343,000 h.p. New plants and extensions to existing stations under construction in 1952 were expected to bring total installed capacity to over 15,000,000 h.p. by the end of 1953.