

operations within a 20-mile radius of Flin Flon, including the Cuprus mine which is producing on a small scale, and several properties where exploratory work is proceeding.

There have been few major changes since the War in Manitoba's gold industry, one of the main developments being the entry into production of the Nor-Acme mine in the Snow Lake area in March 1949. The property is being operated on a lease basis by Howe Sound Exploration Company Limited, and is equipped with a 2,000-ton mill. This Company and San Antonio Gold Mines Limited, in the Rice Lake area, are the only quartz-gold producers in the Province at present, output from the Ogama-Rockland mine having ceased in June 1951. Gold production reached a peak of 191,725 oz t. in 1950, but declined to 162,257 oz t. in 1951. Over 78 p.c. of the 1951 output was from quartz gold mines, the remainder being recovered as a by-product of the base-metal operations at Flin Flon.

Little of interest has occurred since the War in connection with the large deposits of chromite in the Bird River area. Federal Government and other metallurgists have worked out methods of treating the ore that would be applicable in the event of an emergency, but would possibly not prove economical under present competitive conditions. The high iron content poses a difficult metallurgical problem. However, the deposits are not being overlooked and several companies have been active in the area.

Metal production accounted for about 75 p.c. of Manitoba's total 1951 output of minerals valued at \$28,398,000. The chief non-metallics produced, in order of value of output, were: cement, sand and gravel, clay products, stone, gypsum and salt.

Ontario.—Ontario has held first position in Canadian mineral production for close to half a century and still holds this lead by a wide margin. The value of its mineral production has increased from a lowly \$86,000,000 in 1932 to \$217,000,000 in 1945, and to a record \$437,000,000 in 1951.

Gold, nickel and copper accounted for over 71 p.c. of the total value of its mineral output in 1951 and metals as a whole for about 83 p.c. Sand and gravel, clay products, cement, gypsum, salt, quartz, mica and, since 1950, asbestos are the principal non-metallic minerals produced. Ontario produces all of Canada's output of nickel, the platinum metals, cobalt and nepheline syenite, most of the copper, gold, iron ore, salt and mica, and large percentages of several other metals and minerals.

Most of the major developments in the mineral industry since World War II have been in connection with iron-ore operations in the Steep Rock area, 140 miles west of Port Arthur, and in the Michipicoten area, and with nickel-copper operations in the Sudbury area. Of great importance also has been the establishment of an asbestos industry in the Matheson area in northern Ontario.

The importance of the iron-ore developments requires little comment, especially when it is realized that for many years prior to the War Ontario produced no iron ore and that at no time was the production large. The discovery of large deposits of hematite ore in the Steep Rock area has changed the picture completely, for Ontario now shows promise of becoming a major world source of iron ore.

The first shipments were made from the deposits in 1944, but at that time comparatively little was known of their extent or potentialities. Much of this knowledge has since been gained and, as the Steep Rock Iron Mines Limited