

In southeastern Ontario, Marmoraton Mining Company Limited proceeded with the removal of 20,000,000 tons of limestone capping on its magnetite deposit near Marmorata about 32 miles east of Peterborough, with a view to production before the end of 1954. The construction of permanent repair shops, warehouses, change room and offices is nearing completion. Engineering plans are being prepared with a view to construction of the hoisting, crushing and magnetic concentration plants during 1953 and 1954. The concentrator is being designed for annual production of 500,000 net tons of concentrates, which will be agglomerated and shipped by rail to a new pier to be constructed on Lake Ontario, near Picton, Prince Edward County. Lake ore-carriers will transport the product to the Bethlehem Steel Company plant at Lackawanna, near Buffalo, New York. The Federal Government has completed hydrographic surveys at the port site and construction is expected to commence during 1953.

Several companies were engaged in exploratory and development activity on various properties but, up to the end of June 1953, none had announced definite production plans.

Despite increased operational costs, a fixed price for gold, and the exchange losses due to a strong Canadian dollar, Ontario's gold industry continued to be quite active. Output in 1952 decreased to 2,458,359 oz. t. valued at \$84,247,963 compared with 2,462,979 oz. t. in 1951 valued at \$90,760,776. There were 36 actual gold producers in the Province at the end of April 1953. During the review period, three new mines, Bonwhit, Hugh-Pam and Tisdale Ankerite, all in the Porcupine camp, came into production and one mine, Theresa of Theresa Gold Mines Limited in northwestern Ontario, resumed operations. Ten mines ceased operations.

Development work was carried out at several mines with encouraging results, particularly in the Porcupine area, Canada's greatest gold-producing camp, where most of the mines were engaged in underground exploration and development. In the Larder Lake camp, Kerr-Addison Gold Mines Limited obtained outstanding results in the development of high-grade ore at depth and recorded a new high in output. Production in the Kirkland Lake area dropped in 1952 mainly because of difficulties in operation at Lake Shore Mines Limited. In the Patricia and Thunder Bay areas several mines opened up better-grade ore and generally made up for losses incurred by other producers. Mines showing gains in output included Campbell Red Lake Mines Limited in the Patricia district and MacLeod-Cockshutt Gold Mines Limited in the Thunder Bay region.

Ontario's output of cobalt increased sharply to 1,303,400 lb. in 1952 from 951,607 lb. in 1951 while that of silver showed an increase of 1,750,000 oz. t. over the 1951 production to 6,274,359 oz. t. in 1952 despite a drop of 5 cents an oz. t. in the price of silver. Demand for cobalt continues to increase as new uses develop and the United States Government late in 1952 announced a further increase of 6,000,000 lb. in its projected cobalt needs for 1955 to 27,000,000 lb., more than two and a half times its 1950 requirements.

Output continued to come mainly from a small group of producers in the Cobalt camp, and partly as a by-product of base-metal operations in the Sudbury area. Shipments from the Cobalt camp were made in the form of straight cobalt concentrates and of cobalt-silver concentrates. A smelter is being built south of the town of Cobalt to turn out refined cobalt, silver and nickel.