

Exploratory and development activity particularly for base metals remained at a high level. In the Sudbury area, Ontario Pyrites Company Limited entered into a broader program of development at its two zinc-copper-lead-silver-gold properties in the belief that operations on a larger scale than was originally intended may be warranted. Underground exploration greatly increased known ore reserves and metallurgical tests are being carried out on the ore to determine the most suitable method of treatment. Geneva Lake Mines installed a 150-ton mill at its zinc-lead property at Lake Geneva, 40 miles northwest of Sudbury, but the Company deferred commencement of production pending an improvement in metal prices.

In the Kenora district, Quebec Nickel Corporation Limited carried out surface exploration and diamond drilling on a copper-nickel deposit near Werner Lake and a nickel-copper prospect near Emo in the Rainy River district was diamond drilled by Ventures Limited and Falconbridge Nickel Mines. In the Temiskaming district, New Ryan Lake Mines Limited commenced the production of copper concentrates from a mill at Matachewan with a 100-ton-a-day capacity. Toward the end of the review period, columbium-tantalum-uranium deposits were discovered on the Manitou Islands in Lake Nipissing. Inspiration Mining and Development Company Limited is exploring the deposits and having tests made of the ore in order to work out possible methods of treatment.

Ontario's output of industrial minerals was valued at \$76,839,000 in 1952 compared with \$73,818,000 in 1951 and was comprised mainly of structural materials, salt, asbestos, nepheline syenite and gypsum.

A widespread search for new asbestos deposits was carried out in northern Ontario particularly in the vicinity of the Munro asbestos mine in Matheson township and in the Timmins area. Fibre from a deposit in the latter area was being tested at the end of the review period. Meanwhile, production at the Munro mine continued at about 2,000 tons a month. Fibre from the operations is short and is used by Canadian Johns-Manville Company Limited to make various asbestos products.

Ontario accounted for 77 p.c. of the Canadian volume of output of salt in 1952. Output, which that year amounted to 766,000 tons with a value of \$4,518,000, comes from wells drilled into salt beds that lie from 800 to 1,500 feet below the surface at Goderich, Sarnia, Warwick and Sandwich in southwestern Ontario.

Cement production in 1952 declined in volume to 5,433,263 bbl. but advanced in value to \$13,517,086 compared with the 1951 output of 5,438,101 bbl. valued at \$12,494,677. Cement-producing facilities were expanded by Canada Cement Company Limited in its plant at Belleville and by St. Mary's Cement Company Limited in its St. Mary's plant.

American Nepheline Limited continued to be the sole producer of nepheline syenite in the Western Hemisphere. Output, which comes from extensive deposits on Blue Mountain in Peterborough County, increased by 4,000 tons over the 1951 output to 85,500 tons in 1952 valued at \$1,116,500.

A significant development during the review period was the discovery of deposits of kyanite near Mattawa and in the Wanapitei area east of Sudbury. This mineral is of value as a ceramic refractory. Ore from deposits in both areas is being tested to ascertain whether commercial development is warranted.

Production of natural gas in 1952 amounted to 7,916,000,000 cu. feet valued at \$3,166,400 and of crude petroleum to 192,000 bbl. with a value of \$660,480. In all, 168 successful gas wells were completed in southwestern Ontario in 1952 of which