

The Province is now a leading producer of tungsten concentrates: its output in 1953 was 2,336,000 lb., an increase of 63 p.c. over the 1952 figure. Production comes mainly from the Emerald mine of Canadian Exploration Limited near Salmo. A second producer, Western Tungsten Copper Mines Limited, is carrying out considerable development work in its Red Rose mine near Hazelton.

Most of the silver output comes as a by-product of base-metal operations. Output in 1953 increased 3,700,000 oz. t. over 1952 to 11,480,000 oz. t.

The Province's four gold producers—Pioneer Gold Mines of B.C. Limited and Bralorne Mines Limited in the Bridge River district, the Cariboo Gold Quartz Mining Company Limited in the Cariboo district, and Kelowna Mines Hedley Limited in the Osoyoos mining division—have been carrying out considerable underground development to expand reserves. Near the close of the review period underground development at Bralorne Mines revealed interesting ore at depth. The Province's gold production of 267,000 oz. t. in 1953 was little changed from 1952.

The Prairie Provinces.—Developments during the review period brought Saskatchewan and Manitoba, hitherto minor metal producers, rapidly to the forefront in Canadian mineral production—Saskatchewan as the leading Canadian producer of uranium ore, and Manitoba as Canada's second nickel-producing province. Metal production in the Prairie Provinces, otherwise, continued to be confined to the Flin Flon mine of Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company Limited on the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border, and to a subsidiary base-metal producer and two gold producers, all in Manitoba.

In northern Saskatchewan exploration and development activity in the search for uranium in the Beaverlodge area reached new levels. Of the record number of 18,000 claims staked in the Province during 1953, most were in this region. As a result of discoveries made during the review period, the area now extends from the Alberta boundary eastwards for about 80 miles along the north side of Lake Athabasca. Top-ranking developments in the area were the bringing into production of the Crown-owned Ace-Fay mine of Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited in April 1953, and the disclosure of a large deposit of uranium on the property of Gunnar Mines Limited. At the Ace-Fay property the new carbonate leaching plant has an initial capacity of 500 tons. Provision for the treatment of custom ores has been made in the form of underground storage bins and of special crushing and sampling equipment. Throughout the period Eldorado continued to work the nearby RA group of claims and the Bolger claims, along with those leased from Radiore Uranium Mines Limited. Gunnar Mines Limited carried out extensive work on its property in the St. Mary's Channel section of the area. In March 1954 the Company announced plans for the construction of a 1,250-ton mill with output scheduled to start in September 1955. The value of the orebody has been placed by the Company at more than double the June 1953 estimate of \$65,000,000. Present reserves are estimated to be sufficient for from 10 to 12 years of operation.

Elsewhere in the Beaverlodge area, private companies explored nine properties by adits or shafts and 47 by diamond drilling. Surface trenching and prospecting were carried out on several others. Some exploratory and development activity was also carried on in the Stony Rapids-Porcupine River, Foster Lake, and Lac La Ronge regions.

Nickel and copper were added to Manitoba's metal output early in 1954 with the commencement of production at the Lynn Lake mine of Sherritt Gordon Mines Limited following one of the most ingenious feats ever performed in the history of