

plans to bring each property into production at a daily rate of 3,000 tons, the Quirke Lake in mid-1956 and the Nordic by early 1957. Several other properties were under exploration in the Blind River area and preliminary results indicated that other orebodies may be outlined in the territory north of Lake Huron.

Encouraging results were obtained from exploration and development activity on several uranium properties in the Haliburton-Bancroft region in southeastern Ontario. At the end of the period one of these, Bicroft Uranium Mines Limited, formed from the merger of two companies operating in the area, Croft Uranium Mines Limited and Centre Lake Uranium Mines Limited, was negotiating with Eldorado for the sale of its concentrates. The Company planned to start production by September 1956 at a daily rate of 1,000 tons.

Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited installed a new refining process in its Port Hope refinery in southern Ontario to increase the recovery of uranium.

**Quebec.**—Quebec stands on the threshold of a most promising future in minerals. Metal mining developments in various areas leave little doubt of the Province's tremendous mineral wealth and its potentialities as a producer of iron ore and of the non-ferrous base metals in particular. Large new sources of iron ore as well as base metal prospects have been disclosed in New Quebec; developments in the Gaspé and Chibougamau areas will soon add substantial tonnages of copper to the Province's already large output, and expansion under way at most of the metal mines will be reflected in an increased production for some years to come.

In 1954 Quebec was third among the provinces in value of Canadian mineral production. Its total mining output increased 9 p.c. over 1953 to \$278,818,000 owing to the greater volume and value of metal production which rose from \$103,190,000 to \$126,213,000. Quebec is the second largest producer of copper, gold and zinc and the only producer of molybdenite, which is mined 25 miles north of Val d'Or, and of titanium ore which comes from the large deposits of ilmenite at Allard Lake. Silver, lead, selenium and bismuth make up the remainder of the Province's metal production.

Following the expenditure of over \$250,000,000 and nearly four years of unceasing effort Iron Ore Company of Canada made the first shipments of iron ore from its New Quebec-Labrador properties in June 1954. Approximately 2,119,000 long tons were produced, of which 1,782,000 tons were shipped from the port of Sept Îles to steel mills in the United States and Canada. Ninety per cent of the ore was shipped by tidewater and the remainder by way of the St. Lawrence River. The iron ore transfer terminal at Contrecoeur near Montreal was completed and iron ore shipments by way of the St. Lawrence are expected to total 1,000,000 tons in 1955 and 2,000,000 tons by 1957. The Company expects to produce 6,500,000 tons in 1955 and to arrive at an annual output of 10,000,000 tons within three years and a possible 20,000,000 tons upon the completion of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Extensive exploration for iron ore was carried out during the review period in the Ungava Bay area and along the Labrador Trough in New Quebec and Labrador. Consolidated Fenimore Iron Mines Limited, Cyrus Eaton interests and Oceanic Iron Ore of Canada Limited are exploring concessions in the Ungava Bay area which contain large tonnages of iron bearing material of possible concentrating grade. These Companies are also studying the various problems involved in bringing their properties into production, the chief being of course transportation.

Forty miles northwest of Hull, Steel Company of Canada Limited and Pickands Mather and Company of Cleveland, U.S.A., plan to produce 500,000 tons of high grade iron ore pellets annually from an old iron mine at Bristol, output to start late in 1956.

Most of Quebec's base metal production comes from the western part of the Province, the chief source of output being the Horne mine of Noranda Mines Limited. The high price of copper and production from new properties combined to make copper the Province's leading metal in point of value. Output in 1954 increased to 83,930 tons valued at