

Zinc production also came from the copper-zinc properties of Quemont, Normetal, Golden Manitou, Waite Amulet, East Sullivan and Weedon Pyrite mentioned above and from West Macdonald Mines Limited in Rouyn-Noranda County and New Calumet Mines Limited, a zinc-lead-gold-silver producer on Calumet Island in the Ottawa River. Zinc concentrates produced in the Province are exported to the United States and Europe.

Lead concentrates were produced at three mines—New Calumet, Golden Manitou and Barvue—New Calumet being the largest producer.

Widespread exploratory activity in Quebec resulted in the discovery of a number of new sources of base-metal wealth. Attracting major attention were the nickel discoveries in northern Ungava where exploratory work disclosed several occurrences of nickel in a mineralized belt of rocks extending from Cape Smith on Hudson Bay to Wakeham Bay on Hudson Strait. Several companies were active in the area during 1957 and development work was done on some of the properties. In mid-1957 the discovery of copper-zinc deposits in the Bell River-Mattagami Lake area touched off a staking rush into that area.

Quebec produced 1,032,000 oz. t. of gold in 1956. Sixty-six per cent of the output came from lode gold mines and the remainder from base-metal operations. Output from the latter was greater than in 1955 because of increased production from the copper-gold mines in the Chibougamau area. Three lode gold mines—Beattie-Duquesne, O'Brien Gold Mines Limited and Sullivan Consolidated Mines Limited—ceased production in 1956 leaving ten in operation.

Molybdenite production comes from Molybdenite Corporation of Canada Limited about 25 miles northwest of Val d'Or, the sole Canadian producer. Output in 1956 totalled 1,452,000 lb. In December 1956, the Company began the production of molybdc oxide, which will lead to a decrease in imports of the oxide by Canadian steel plants.

Quebec Iron and Titanium Corporation continued to operate at Sorel its experimental smelting plant for the treatment of ilmenite ore from the deposits at Allard Lake, which are among the largest known in the world. Production is in the form of titanium dioxide concentrate and pig iron. Production of titanium dioxide slag at Sorel in 1956 amounted to 209,513 tons containing 150,640 tons of titanium dioxide. Most of the slag produced was exported to United States for the titanium pigment and welding-rod industries. Early in 1957 the Company announced its intention to increase by 60 p.c. production of titanium dioxide slag at its Sorel plant because of the increased demand for slag for processing into titanium dioxide pigment used extensively in paint and paper products and for processing into titanium metal.

The Maritimes.—Major attention in metal mining continued to be directed to the Bathurst-Newcastle lead-zinc area of northeastern New Brunswick which promises to become one of Canada's major base-metal camps. In western New Brunswick, plans were under way to proceed with the development of the deposits of manganese in the Woodstock area. Meanwhile, the two former sources of base-metal production—Keymet Mines Limited, 18 miles northwest of Bathurst in New Brunswick, and Mindamar Metals Corporation Limited on Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia—ceased production because of the exhaustion of ore. Prince Edward Island has no mineral production.

Exploratory and development activity in the Bathurst-Newcastle area continued at a high level during most of the review period, declining somewhat only in mid-1957 because of low metal prices. Heath Steele Mines Limited, the area's first major producer, commenced operations early in 1957. Several properties, including those of Brunswick Mining and Smelting Corporation Limited, were brought nearer to the production stage, and intensive exploration brought to light a number of major new orebodies.

Heath Steele Mines, a subsidiary of American Metal Company, brought its lead-zinc-copper property some 34 miles northwest of Newcastle into production in February 1957 and by late June was treating 1,200 tons daily in its 1,500-ton mill. A 22-mile railway from Bartibog on the main line of the CNR was scheduled for completion toward the end of 1957. Brunswick Mining and Smelting reported encouraging progress in the intensive research being carried out on its metallurgical problem. It continued development work