

a sharp reduction in the demand for titanium-rich slag forced Quebec Iron and Titanium Corporation to suspend smelting operations at Sorel. The company had completed its sixth electric furnace the year before and had two more under construction.

Developments in Ontario in 1957-58 centred mainly around the Michipicoten and Steep Rock Lake areas. Algoma Ore Properties Limited began producing siderite ore from the Sir James open-pit mine and continued the underground development at its Helen and Victoria mines. Steep Rock Iron Mines completed a new concentration plant (with another to be ready early in 1959) and continued to develop the new Hogarth underground mine and the "G" open pit. Caland Ore Company Limited carried on its dredging of the east arm of Steep Rock Lake. In the same area Canadian Charleson Limited began construction of a gravity separation plant for treating hematite-bearing gravels and by October 1958 had made its first shipment. Annual capacity was rated at 250,000 tons of iron-ore concentrate. In November 1957, Anaconda Iron Ore Company Ltd. was formed to purchase the iron ore claims of Lake Superior Iron Limited and others about 32 miles north of Nakina.

In British Columbia, 1957-58 brought a legal battle over the province's Mineral Property Taxation Act, passed in October 1957. The ruling, which would impose a tax of 50 cents a ton on shipments of iron ore, was successfully appealed in the Supreme Court of British Columbia but was to be considered again before the province's Court of Appeals. Several companies took an interest in British Columbia's iron in the two-year period. Among them, The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited studied the possibility of producing pig iron and steel from pyrrhotite tailings at its Kimberley concentrator, and Nimpkish Iron Mines Limited was incorporated as a private company to operate an iron property on Vancouver Island.

Gold.—For the gold mining industry, 1957 was a year of rising costs and reduced earnings. The premium on the Canadian dollar in relation to that of the United States continued to reduce the mint price of gold, which by August reached a low of \$33.06 per oz.t. Thus the value of Canada's gold production for the year fell to \$148,757,143 though the volume (4,433,894 oz.t.) was actually greater than that of 1956. Earnings for 1958, however, showed a slight improvement (4,534,455 oz.t. at \$154,065,491) and prospects for the future—attributed in no small measure to the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act—appeared somewhat brighter.

Almost 60 p.c. of Canada's gold comes from Ontario, where the 1957 output of 2,578,206 oz. t. valued at \$86,498,811 was 64,294 oz. t. higher than the 1956 level. Increases occurred mainly in the Larder Lake, Patricia and Thunder Bay districts with declines in Porcupine, Kirkland Lake, Sudbury and Matachewan. In 1958 all Ontario's gold mining areas except Sudbury showed production gains. The Porcupine district in 1957 had 13 auriferous-quartz mines in operation, of which Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines Limited, McIntyre Porcupine Mines Limited and Dome Mines Limited were the three leading producers. Aunor Gold Mines Limited and the Hollinger-Ross mine at Holtvre maintained production at about the level of the previous year while decreases of varying degrees were shown at Preston East Dome Mines Limited, Broulan Reef Mines Limited and the adjoining Hugh-Pam Porcupine Mines Limited, Pamour Porcupine Mines Limited, Coniaurum Mines Ltd., Delnite Mines Limited, Hallnor Mines Limited and Paymaster Consolidated Mines Limited.

Kerr-Addison Gold Mines Limited, Canada's largest gold producer, which operates in the Larder Lake district, increased its output by 44,000 oz. t. or by 9 p.c. In the Patricia area, the chief producers of 1957 were Campbell Red Lake Mines Limited and Madsen Red Lake Gold Mines Limited, both of which showed improved annual output along with New Dickenson Mines Limited, Cochenour Willans Gold Mines Limited and Pickle Crow Gold Mines Limited. On the other hand, Kirkland Lake's production continued downward, output from the seven gold mines in the district dropping by 3 p.c. Producers in 1957 were Lake Shore Mines Limited, Wright-Hargreaves Mines Limited, Macassa Mines