

Quebec's output of silver comes mainly from its copper ores. The principal producers in 1957 were Noranda Mines Limited, Golden Manitou Mines Limited, Normetal Mining Corporation Limited, Quemont Mining Corporation Limited, Barvue Mines Limited, New Calumet Mines Limited, Gaspé Copper Mines Ltd., East Sullivan Mines Limited, Waite Amulet Mines Limited, Campbell Chibougamau Mines Ltd. and Opemiska Copper Mines (Quebec) Limited.

Heath Steele Mines Limited, the only producer in New Brunswick, recovered silver from its base-metal operations but was forced to curtail its operations sharply in 1958. Buchans Mining Company Limited of Newfoundland also obtained silver from base-metal concentrates.

Development work involving silver values has been mentioned under the headings of Copper and Lead and Zinc. Projects of interest in 1957 and 1958 involved the Chisel Lake area, under development by Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. Limited; the base-metal property of Consolidated Sudbury Basin Mines Limited; the zinc-silver-lead deposit of The Coniagas Mines Limited at Bachelor Lake, Que.; the drilling program undertaken by the Mattagami Syndicate at Watson Lake; and the zinc-lead-copper deposits near Bathurst which, for a time, were under study by Brunswick Mining and Smelting Corporation Limited, and by Nigadoo Mines Limited. Unfortunately the continuing slump in the base-metals market has forced some of these projects to be curtailed.

Uranium.—Uranium production registered spectacular gains in 1957-58. Annual output of the oxide soared from 2,281 tons at \$45,732,145 in 1956 to 6,635 tons at \$136,304,364 the following year; and preliminary figures for 1958 of 14,118 tons at \$290,228,356 show a continuation of the upward trend.

Ontario was the leading producer, its 1957 output of 3,985 tons accounting for about 60 p.c. of the Canadian total. During the year the two established Elliot Lake producers, Pronto Uranium Mines Limited and the Quirke Lake mine of Algom Uranium Mines Limited, operated at full capacity and were joined by five new mines. Coming into operation were Algom's Nordic mine, Consolidated Denison Mines Limited, the Buckles mine of Lake Nordic Mines Limited and Can-Met Explorations Limited. By the end of 1958 another five Elliot Lake mines reached the production stage: Northspan's Panel and Spanish American mines and those of Stanleigh Uranium Mining Corporation Limited, Milliken Lake Uranium Mines Limited and Stanrock Uranium Mines Limited. Thus Elliot Lake, capable of supplying some 13,000 tons a year, became the largest uranium-producing camp in the world.

In the Bancroft district, Bicroft Uranium Mines Limited was the only producer at the beginning of 1957 but was later joined by Faraday Uranium Mines Limited and Greyhawk Uranium Mines Limited, and in June 1958 by Canadian Dyno Mines Limited, bringing the total to four mines and three mills.

Saskatchewan's 1957 production of 2,231 tons valued at \$44,561,832 came from seven mines on the north shore of Lake Athabasca. Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited, Rix Athabasca Uranium Mines Limited, National Explorations Limited and Gunnar Mines Limited had been in production for several years; the others were Lorado Uranium Mines Limited (which opened a custom mill in August 1957), Cayzor Athabasca Mines Limited and Lake Cinch Mines Limited. In 1958 the area's three mills worked close to or beyond capacity. Eldorado's mill operated at 1,950 tons a day, Gunnar's at 2,000 and Lorado's at 600 tons a day.

Production of uranium oxide in the Northwest Territories in 1957 amounted to 419 tons. Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited continued to produce a precipitate and concentrate at its Port Radium mine, sending them to the company's refinery at Port Hope, Ont. In mid-1957 Rayrock Mines Limited began producing precipitate at its mine on Sherman Lake and operated a mill rated at about 150 tons a day.