

Copper.—Production of copper in Canada reached a record high of 394,893 tons in 1959 valued at \$233,296,375 compared with 345,113 tons valued at \$174,430,930 in 1958. The world over-supply which had developed in 1957 and the first half of 1958 was wiped out by a series of production cuts and strikes in various parts of the world and an increased demand for copper in the United States. The greater demand for copper and the resulting price increases encouraged the reopening of some marginal producers that had suspended operations in 1957 and 1958 and the resumption of full production at other mines.

Copper production in Canada declined in 1958 owing to the strike at the mines of the International Nickel Company of Canada Limited which lasted from September to December, and to the closure of several relatively high-cost mines. International Nickel is Canada's largest producer followed by Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company Limited. Since 1958, Gaspé Copper Mines Limited has been the third largest, displacing the Horne mine of Noranda Mines Limited in that position.

Six smelters for the reduction of copper and copper-nickel ores and concentrates are operated in Canada. In the Sudbury area, International Nickel operates smelters at Copper Cliff and Coniston and Falconbridge Nickel Mines Limited produces copper-nickel matte at Falconbridge. Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting smelts concentrates from mines in Manitoba and Saskatchewan in its plant at Flin Flon, Man., and Noranda Mines Limited smelts ore and concentrates from the Horne mine and other mines in Eastern Canada at its smelter in Noranda. Gaspé Copper Mines treats concentrates from the Newfoundland Tilt Cove mine of Maritimes Mining Corporation Limited as well as from its own mine at Murdochville. The 329,239 tons of refined copper produced in 1958 came from Canada's two copper refineries, one operated by International Nickel at Copper Cliff, Ont., and the other by Canadian Copper Refiners Limited, a subsidiary of Noranda Mines Limited, at Montreal East, Que.

Newfoundland's copper production amounted to 14,751 tons in 1958 and to 15,777 tons in 1959. Production was obtained from the Tilt Cove mine and from the Buchans unit of American Smelting and Refining Company. Development and exploration continued at the property of Atlantic Coast Copper Corporation Limited in northeastern Newfoundland where production is planned for 1960.

Copper production in New Brunswick amounted to only 328 tons in 1958 and no production was obtained in 1959. Heath Steele Mines Limited closed its mine near Newcastle early in 1958. Exploration continued in the Newcastle-Bathurst area on a reduced scale and in 1959 the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited started shaft-sinking on the Wedge copper prospect.

Quebec produced 136,839 tons of copper in 1959 compared with 131,445 tons in 1958. The relative importance of the principal copper-producing districts is indicated by the 1958 statistics of production: mines in the Noranda-Val d'Or district—69,834 tons; Gaspé Copper Mines Limited at Murdochville in the Gaspé Peninsula—35,266 tons; and mines in the Chibougamau district—23,490 tons. The Noranda-Val d'Or district includes Noranda's Horne mine and the mines of Waite Amulet Mines Limited, Quemont Mining Corporation Limited, Normetal Mining Corporation Limited, Manitou-Barvue Mines Limited and East Sullivan Mines Limited. In the Chibougamau district are the mining operations of Campbell Chibougamau Mines Limited, Opemiska Mines Limited and Merrill Island Mining Corporation Limited. Other producers in Quebec in 1958 included Weedon Pyrite and Copper Corporation Limited—2,124 tons, and Anacon Lead Mines Limited—720 tons. Development work continued at several properties in the Chibougamau district and exploration was directed towards the Mattagami district of northwestern Quebec.

Ontario's copper production in 1959, at 186,747 tons, was about 31 p.c. higher than in 1958. Most of the production comes from nickel-copper mines in the Sudbury district. International Nickel continued production from its five mines in the district but its deliveries of refined copper declined to 105,235 tons in 1958 owing to the strike. In the