

same area, Falconbridge Nickel Mines Limited operates six mines and produced 15,448 tons of copper in 1958. In the Manitouwadge area, Geco Mines Limited and Willroy Mines Limited produced steadily in 1958 and 1959. In 1958 Geco produced 30,455 tons of copper and Willroy 3,292 tons. Other Ontario copper producers are Temagami Mining Company Limited, which operates a copper-nickel-cobalt property on the east arm of Lake Temagami, and Nickel Rim Mines Limited with operations at a property in the Sudbury area which, however, were suspended in May 1958.

Copper production in Manitoba and Saskatchewan amounted to 50,111 tons in 1958 and to 48,967 tons in 1959. Saskatchewan's production comes from the portions of Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company's deposits that lie within the province, while Manitoba's output comes from that company's mines and from the deposits of Sherritt Gordon mines located in the Lynn Lake area of northern Manitoba. Hudson Bay produced 45,455 tons of copper in 1958 while Sherritt Gordon produced 4,945 tons. Hudson Bay continued development of the Coronation mine in Saskatchewan and the Stall Lake and Chisel Lake mines in Manitoba.

British Columbia's 1959 copper production was slightly higher than the 6,010 tons produced in 1958. Increased production was obtained from several mines that had closed in 1958 and were reopened in 1959. These include operations of the Howe Sound Company at Britannia Beach, the Phoenix Copper Company Limited at Phoenix, and Woodgreen Copper Mines Limited near Greenwood. Exploration was continued at the properties of Bethlehem Copper Company Limited in Highland Valley and Craigmont Mines Limited near Merritt.

North Rankin Nickel Mines Limited produced nickel-copper concentrates in 1958 and 1959 from its mine at Rankin Inlet on the west shore of Hudson Bay, N.W.T., which were shipped to the Sherritt Gordon refinery at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.

Iron Ore.—Shipments of iron ore by Canadian producers reached an all-time high of 24,477,004 short tons in 1959 compared with the previous record of 22,348,278 short tons in 1956. The 1959 shipments were 55 p.c. greater than in 1958, the values of the 1959 and 1958 shipments being \$186,206,552 and \$126,131,181, respectively.

Imports from the Lake Superior area of the United States into Ontario, which have usually been over 4,000,000 short tons in recent years, were lower in 1958 owing to the general economic recession and an 86-day strike at one of the major Canadian iron and steel producers. Imports in 1959 were also low as a result of the steel strike which closed most United States iron ore mines. To enable Ontario blast furnace plants to operate at a high rate in 1959, a much larger percentage of the iron ore consumed was obtained from Canadian mines, particularly from Labrador-Quebec.

The United States is the principal market for Canadian iron ore. Because of the decline in steel demand there in 1958, exports decreased sharply. In 1959, despite the steel strike, the United States market for iron ore was strong. During the strike about 15 p.c. of the United States steel-making capacity continued to operate and, because no domestic ore was available, Canadian iron ore producers still had a market. The fear of an ore shortage during the 1959-60 winter led to an increase in stockpile facilities at United States ports, which permitted Canadian and other foreign producers to ship large tonnages during the strike.

Exports to Japan and western Europe, which are smaller but important Canadian customers, decreased in 1958. As industrial activity increased, the demand for Canadian iron ore, particularly in western Europe, strengthened towards the end of 1959. During 1958 it became evident that competition from other iron ore exporting nations, particularly Venezuela, will increase as the world enters into a period of relative iron ore abundance.

Iron Ore Company of Canada, with direct-shipping ore deposits astride the Labrador-Quebec border 360 miles north of the port of Sept Îles, Que., is the largest iron ore producer in Canada. This company accounted for about 60 p.c. of all 1959 shipments. Wabana Mines Limited, wholly owned subsidiary of Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation