

and was developing two new levels. Ruth Gold Mines Limited leased the Ruth property, 57 miles east of Yellowknife, from Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited and recovered a small amount of gold. Many other gold prospects were being explored in the Yellowknife area.

British Columbia produced 178,749 oz. t. of gold valued at \$6,000,604 in 1959 compared with 210,612 oz. t. valued at \$7,156,596 in 1958. The two largest of the four lode gold mines—Bralorne Mines Limited and Pioneer Gold Mines of B.C. Limited—in the Bridge River area amalgamated during 1959 under the name of Bralorne Pioneer Mines Limited. Bralorne maintained its 1958 level of production but Pioneer's was 29 p.c. lower in 1959. The Cariboo Gold Quartz Mining Company Limited at Wells and its subsidiary, French Mines Limited at Hedley, produced less than in 1958. There was some increase in gold placer activities in the Wells and Atlin area. Camp McKinney Gold Mines Limited reopened a former lode gold producer near Rock Creek, and Bedwell River Gold Mines Limited reopened the old Musketeer mine on Vancouver Island and recovered a small amount of gold.

Placer mining operations accounted for most of the Yukon gold output of 68,396 oz. t. valued at \$2,296,054 in 1959, the remainder being gold recovered as a by-product by United Keno Hill Mines Limited. Output in the Yukon in 1958 was 67,745 oz. t. valued at \$2,301,975.

In the Prairie Provinces, gold production comes from two lode mines in Manitoba where it is recovered as a by-product from the base-metal mines at Flin Flon and Lynn Lake. Some placer gold is also recovered from river gravels near Edmonton. In Manitoba, gold production dropped to 51,711 oz. t. from 87,356 in 1958 and in Saskatchewan to 80,694 oz. t. from 86,590. The decline in Manitoba resulted primarily from the closing of the Nor-Acme mine at Snow Lake in July 1958. This mine was being worked under lease by Britannia Mining and Smelting Company Limited. Output from San Antonio Gold Mines Limited and its subsidiary, Forty-Four Mines Limited at Rice Lake, was lower than in 1958. An internal shaft is being sunk at Forty-Four to develop more ore at depth if possible.

Gold production from the Maritime Provinces amounted to only 50 oz. t. in 1959 and 183 oz. t. in 1958, all of it from Nova Scotia in 1959 and from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1958. In Newfoundland, gold is recovered as a by-product from the base-metal operations of Buchans Mining Company Limited at Buchans and Maritimes Mining Corporation Limited at Tilt Cove. Gold recovered in 1959 increased slightly to 13,518 oz. t. from 13,381 oz. t. in 1958.

The outlook for Canada's gold mining industry is dependent largely upon any improvement that may occur in the cost-price relationship. Faced with a fixed price of \$35 an oz. t., United States currency, and the fluctuating exchange rate on the Canadian dollar in relation to that currency, the industry has depended greatly on the cost-aid provided by the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act.

Lead and Zinc.—The growth of the Canadian lead and zinc mining industry was retarded throughout 1958 and 1959 by unsettled prices and by quotas imposed by the United States to hold its imports of lead and zinc to 80 p.c. of the 1953-57 average. In 1958 lead prices fell in June from 12½ cents a pound to 10½ cents and then advanced to 11½ cents in the last quarter of the year. The price of lead in 1959 settled from the high of 11½ cents a pound recorded during the first week in January to 10½ cents by early September at which level it stayed for the remainder of the year. Compared with 1957, production of lead in 1958 increased 2.9 p.c. in volume to 186,680 tons but decreased 17 p.c. in value to \$42,413,805. Production in 1959 amounted to 186,495 tons valued at \$39,574,191.

Exports of lead in 1958 totalled 146,432 tons compared with 129,191 tons in 1957. Of this amount, 54,081 tons were contained in concentrates, almost all of which were shipped to the United States (23,460 tons), Belgium (16,223 tons) and West Germany (13,781 tons). Refined lead exports totalled 92,351 tons, of which the United Kingdom imported 49,841 tons, the United States 40,503 tons and other countries 2,007 tons. According to preliminary export figures, a small decrease in exports occurred in 1959.