

to be considerably lower than that of sulphur from other sources, allowing Canadian sulphur to compete in world markets despite relatively high transportation charges. In 1963 more than 820,000 tons of sulphur were exported to 14 foreign countries and during the first nine months of 1964 more than 1,000,000 tons were exported to 21 countries.

**Construction Materials.**—The total value of construction in Canada reached an all-time high in 1964, notable increases being shown in industrial construction in the western provinces and Quebec. Keeping pace, the output of mineral products used in construction attained a record level.

Since the industrial development of Canada has resulted in an increasing demand for low-cost electric energy, large hydro-electric power developments are under construction in Quebec, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, all of them consuming vast quantities of cement, sand and gravel, and crushed stone.

In the concrete aggregate field, manufactured sand and stone are becoming increasingly important as suitable natural sand and gravel deposits become depleted. Because specifications for aggregate are becoming more rigid, greater attention to beneficiation and processing methods is necessary to meet customer requirements and to offset higher labour and equipment costs.

Exposed aggregate applications in slab, panel and block shapes are gaining in popularity. The demand for new colours and methods of expression has created a need for additional sources of rocks suitable for the production of vari-coloured, exposed aggregate panels and tiles. These panels are used for walls, patios and as pavement blocks in both interior and exterior applications. Quartz, limestone, marble and granite are commonly used as aggregate. Other colourful rocks such as sodalite, amazonite, rose quartz, black to grey anorthosite, and various colours and varieties of marble and granite are used for terrazzo and granox-type tile and panel manufacture. In addition to the usual cement-bonded terrazzo and granox products, these items are now being produced with plastic binders. Specially constructed panels, containing wear-resistant chips and aggregates of slag, emery or other grit bonded in plastic, are being used in stain-, heat- and abrasion-resistant applications.

New textured and coloured granites and marbles are now appearing on the market. Some of the more recent additions in this field are green granite from the Rivière à Pierre area of Quebec; fine-grained black granite from north of the Peribonca River in Quebec; and fine-grained, tough, black granite from River Valley in Ontario.

**Cement.**—Another year of record production was registered by Canada's cement industry in 1964. Production was 10 p.c. greater than in 1963. This increase was the result of additional requirements for general construction and for large dam projects, particularly the Manicouagan in Quebec and the Peace River in British Columbia.

Major expansion in productive capacity took place during the year: two additional kilns were added to existing plants—one by Canada Cement Company, Limited at Fort Whyte, Man., and the other by St. Mary's Cement Co. Limited at St. Mary's, Ont.; expansions representing a total increase of 4,500,000 bbl. of annual output were under way at three plants—the Villeneuve, Que., plant of St. Lawrence Cement Company, the Picton, Ont., plant of Lake Ontario Portland Cement Company Limited, and the Corner Brook, Nfld., plant of North Star Cement Limited. Construction of Nova Scotia's first cement plant was started by Canada Cement Company at Brookfield, and Inland Cement Company Limited started construction of a new plant at Tuxedo, Man.; the latter also purchased a partially completed plant at Rosser, Man., from British-American Construction Company. Expansions of the Havelock, N.B., plant of Canada Cement Company and of the Montreal plant of Miron Company, Ltd. are planned for 1965 and new plants are scheduled for Joliette, Que., by Independent Cement Incorporated and for Prince George, B.C., by Peace River Cement Company Limited.