



\$83,300,000. There was considerable activity in base metal exploration and development in the province during 1965, particularly in the northwest and Gaspé areas. Mine development and plant construction programs under way indicate that production of copper and zinc should increase appreciably in the next few years; one copper mine commenced production in 1965 in the Eastern Townships and a second, north of Amos, started production and mill tune-up late in the year. The Fyre Lake iron orebody, about 60 miles north of Lac Jeannine, will be developed to supplement production of the 9,000,000 tons of concentrate a year from the Lac Jeannine facility.

Quebec leads all provinces in the production of non-metallics, which in 1965 was valued at \$151,900,000, asbestos

contributing \$119,000,000 of the total. After five successive annual production records there was a decline in Quebec and Canadian asbestos production. Plans were announced in 1965 for the development of the Asbestos Hill deposit in far northern Ungava at an estimated cost of \$90,000,000, with production scheduled for 1968.

Output of titanium dioxide slag was valued at \$20,000,000 compared with \$21,300,000 in 1964. It, along with remelt iron, which was valued at \$16,600,000 in 1965, is produced by the electric smelting of ilmenite at Sorel, the largest facility of its kind in the world.

**Ontario.**—Ontario's mineral production in 1965 at \$986,200,000 led all provinces. Metallics, at \$780,700,000, accounted for 79 p.c. of the total and nickel's contribution of \$319,800,000 accounted for 41 p.c. of the metallics' value. In an account of progress of the mineral industry, particularly for Ontario, that of nickel is outstanding. International Nickel and Falconbridge Nickel Mines Limited, first and second among world producers, have expansion programs under way that will maintain and probably improve their positions as world leaders. World nickel consumption in 1965 was higher than the 640,000,000 lb. consumed in 1964; the United States, consumer of about one half of the nickel used in the western world, reported that consumption in the first half of the year was 27 p.c. higher than in the same period of 1964. The increase in nickel production in the Sudbury area was accompanied by an increase in copper production, which for the province totalled 438,000,000 lb. compared with 396,000,000 lb. in 1964. Probably the major development in the province outside the Sudbury area was the preparation for production in late 1966 of the copper-zinc-silver orebody, near Timmins, of the Texas Gulf Sulphur Company, at an initial daily rate of 6,000 tons of ore.