

production of non-metallics in 1966, over \$37,000,000 was credited to that of elemental sulphur recovered from the processing of natural gas; nearly all remaining mineral production was of the five structural materials.

British Columbia.—Mineral production in 1966 at \$330,844,000 was 18 p.c. higher than in the previous year. Metallics output was valued at \$193,360,000, mineral fuels at \$65,928,000 and structural materials at \$46,707,000.

The metallics sector of the mineral industry was highlighted by gains in production of molybdenum and copper, with property development under way for increasing production of each commodity. Molybdenum output came from three primary producers and one by-product producer. Copper production increased to 105,760,000 pounds from 85,000,000 pounds in 1965, with a value increase to over \$47,450,000 from \$32,000,000. Development of several large-tonnage copper properties was under way and proposals for developing others for early production were receiving serious consideration. British Columbia's production of molybdenum and copper is expected to rise appreciably in the years ahead. The province has long been Canada's main producer of lead and, until recently, of zinc, with output coming primarily from Cominco's operations in the south-eastern part of the province. Lead output of 209,494,000 pounds worth \$31,298,000 and zinc output of 305,124,000 pounds worth \$46,074,000 were both lower than in the previous year. Five iron ore producers shipped a record 2,152,000 tons, all of it to Japan. Exploration for base metal deposits and development of base metal properties remained widespread throughout the province, particular attention being paid to copper and molybdenum.

Asbestos production from Cassiar's deposit in northern British Columbia reached a record \$15,719,000, up slightly from 1965. Its value represented almost 63 p.c. of the province's non-metallic output and most of the remainder was attributed to sulphur, which is recovered as sulphuric acid from lead-zinc smelting and from the processing of natural gas. Output of mineral fuels was valued at \$65,928,000 in 1966, continuing its year-to-year advance. There is continuing encouragement in the search for and development of petroleum and natural gas resources in the northeastern part of the province.

Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories.—Mineral output in Yukon Territory was valued at \$11,976,000 in 1966 compared with \$13,400,000 in the previous year. All of it, except for cadmium worth \$306,300 and coal worth \$46,400, was attributable to the production of silver, lead, gold and zinc. Several developments of importance to the Yukon mineral economy occurred in 1966. United Keno Hill, toward the end of the year, announced that it was curtailing operations because of declining ore reserves; Clinton Creek asbestos deposit was readied for production in 1967 by Cassiar Asbestos Corporation; New Imperial Mines Limited continued development of its copper property a short distance south of Whitehorse for open-pit production in 1967; and final plans were awaited for open-pit zinc-lead production by Anvil Mining Corporation from its property northeast of Whitehorse where substantial reserves of material averaging above 10 p.c. combined lead and zinc have been indicated. It is probable that production from New Imperial and from Anvil would be shipped to Japan.

Production of metallic minerals in the Northwest Territories was valued at \$110,358,000, a substantial rise over the 1965 value of \$76,823,000 contributed by zinc output which increased from \$28,596,000 to \$57,128,000 and lead output which increased from \$25,678,000 to \$31,473,000; gold, at \$15,990,000, was slightly lower than in 1965. The large increase in lead-zinc shipments was the result of the first full year of operations by Pine Point Mines Limited from its holdings on the south shore of Great Slave Lake. The company shipped high-grade ore mined from richer portions of the surface deposits and concentrates of lead and zinc from a 5,000-ton-a-day concentrator. Shipments are made to the Trail, B.C., smelter of Cominco Ltd., which controls Pine Point Mines Limited, and to smelters in the United States, Japan and India.