

**Gold.**—Canadian gold production in 1966 amounted to 3,319,000 oz.t. valued at \$125,177,000, a decline of 8.0 p.c. from 1965. The average price for gold paid by the Royal Canadian Mint in 1966 was \$37.71 per oz.t. (Cdn.), down from \$37.73 in the previous year. Since 1962, the range in value for the Canadian dollar has been set at \$0.916 to \$0.934 in relation to the U.S. dollar and the corresponding Royal Canadian Mint gold price between \$37.46 and \$38.22 per oz.t. Canadian lode and placer gold mines continue to experience serious economic difficulties with costs of recovery maintaining an upward trend. Of the 48 lode gold mines operating in Canada in 1966 there were only four that did not receive assistance under the terms of the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act. Six lode gold mines closed in 1966 and only one new mine commenced production. In addition, Canada's largest placer gold mine ceased operations at the end of the 1966 season.

Gold produced from lode gold mines, from base metal ores and from placer mines dropped by 9.0 p.c., 3.7 p.c. and 10 p.c., respectively, below 1965 levels. The proportion of gold derived from lode gold mines declined to 81.2 p.c. of the total output, down from 82.1 p.c. in 1965, while that from base metal ores and placer mines contributed 17.6 p.c. and 1.3 p.c., respectively, compared with 16.7 p.c. and 1.2 p.c. in 1965. Ontario remained the principal producing province, accounting for 50.0 p.c. of the total compared with 54.0 p.c. in 1965; Quebec's share increased to 28.2 p.c. from 25.1 p.c. and the proportions from the Northwest Territories and British Columbia were relatively unchanged at 12.8 p.c. and 3.6 p.c., respectively.

In Ontario, production declined 14.7 p.c. to 1,661,000 oz.t. from 1,946,000 oz.t. in 1965; 25 lode gold mines operated during the year compared with 31 in 1965. In addition, Lake Shore Mines, Limited continued to operate its mill at Kirkland Lake on the re-treatment of old tailings and Upper Beaver Mines Limited had increased gold output from its gold-copper mine in the same area. Four mines ceased operations in 1966: McKenzie Red Lake Gold Mines Limited at Red Lake, Pickle Crow Gold Mines Limited at Pickle Crow, Porcupine Paymaster Limited near Timmins and Stairs Exploration and Mining Company Limited, a small operation near Matachewan. Gold recovered as a by-product from base metal ores was about 3.7 p.c. of the provincial total.

Quebec production increased 3.3 p.c. to 935,500 oz.t. from 905,400 oz.t. in 1965. Lode gold output increased by 13.2 p.c. mainly due to Camflo Mines Limited near Malartic and Wasamac Mines Limited at Arntfield, both of which completed their first full year of production, and to Chimo Gold Mines Limited, a new producer in Vauquelin Township. Twelve gold mines operated in 1966 although two of these—Norlartic Mines Limited near Malartic and Peel-Elder Limited near Noranda—closed during the year. Gold recovered as a by-product from base metal ores represented about 37.4 p.c. of the provincial total compared with nearly 42 p.c. in 1965.

In the Northwest Territories estimated production all from lode gold mines was 424,000 oz.t. compared with 452,500 oz.t. in 1965. The decline of 6.3 p.c. was mainly due to a drop of about 10 p.c. in output by Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited, Canada's largest lode gold mine.

British Columbia production in 1966 moved up to 120,700 oz.t. from 117,800 oz.t. in 1965. Output from the larger of British Columbia's two lode gold mines—Bralorne Pioneer Mines Limited—declined about 20 p.c. but that from The Cariboo Gold Quartz Mining Company Limited improved by nearly 10 p.c. The reduction in lode gold output was offset by an increase of about 23 p.c. in gold recovered from base metal ores.

Combined production for Manitoba and Saskatchewan was 5.8 p.c. lower at 107,200 oz.t. compared with 113,900 oz.t. in 1965. Most of it is derived from base metal ores. Production declined at San Antonio Gold Mines Limited, the only lode gold mine in the Prairie Provinces.

In the Yukon Territory, where placer operations account for almost all of the gold production, output was 43,500 oz.t. compared with 45,000 oz.t. in 1965. Placer gold production in future years will be greatly reduced with the termination of operations near