## MINES AND MINERALS

In terms of output value of minerals the national scene is dominated by Ontario and Alberta. The significant impact of nickel and oil gave these producers about 54% of the total value of minerals output in 1971; Ontario produced 26% of the total in 1971 as against 28% in 1970. In 1971, Quebec contributed 13% and British Columbia 9%; Saskatchewan, Newfoundland (including Labrador), and Manitoba were in the 5-to-7% range and the contribution of each of the three Maritime Provinces and the two territories was less than 2%. In 1971, Alberta produced 78% of the national fuels value, Ontario 44% of the national metallics value, and Quebec 42% of the national non-metallics value (Tables 12.6-12.8).

Newfoundland (including Labrador). Mineral production value in Newfoundland (including Labrador) in 1971 was \$343 million compared with a 1970 value of \$353 million, a decrease of 3%. In 1971, iron ore output reached 21.9 million tons compared with 23.6 million tons the year before; copper output was 14,000 tons, down from 15,000 tons partly because one mine suffered a five-month strike; asbestos output was 69,000 tons compared with 63,000 tons; the value of fluorspar production decreased to \$2.8 million from \$4.6 million.

Prince Edward Island. Mineral output in this province is confined to structural materials, mainly sand and gravel valued at about \$980,000 in 1971.

Nova Scotia. Total mineral production value in 1971 in Nova Scotia was \$60 million, a level above those of 1969 and 1970 but below the levels of the mid-1960s. Coal output again declined in 1971 to 2 million tons from 2.1 million tons in 1970, as two mines were closed in the province; a new mine at Lingan is scheduled to start producing by 1974. Non-metallic mineral output, apart from coal, was valued at \$21 million, compared with the 1970 value of \$19 million. Output of metallics – lead and silver – fell off sharply from 1970 levels.

New Brunswick. Mineral production value in New Brunswick in 1971 amounted to \$107 million compared with \$105 million in 1970 and \$95 million in 1969, close to 85% of it in metallic ores and products. Although the coal industry has declined in recent years, production rose to 517,000 tons in 1971 due to increased local demand for thermal power generation. Zinc and lead, which comprise one half and one sixth, respectively, of the value of New Brunswick mineral production, are the principal metals. Output of both these metals rose rapidly over the 1968-70 period but less so in 1971; although more lead was produced in 1971 than in 1970, the value was down. Production of zinc, lead, copper and silver is centred around Bathurst.

**Quebec.** Total mineral output value in Quebec was \$770 million in 1971, an increase over 1969 but a decrease from 1970 values. Metallics constitute more than one half of the annual product, non-metallics one quarter and structural materials one sixth. Fuels production in this province is insignificant.

Metallics produced in Quebec are mainly copper and iron ore and the non-metallic output is almost wholly asbestos. Copper, valued at \$195 million in 1971, accounted for one quarter of all Quebec mineral output and iron ore, at \$111 million, one seventh. Production of both minerals decreased in 1971. Zinc production, at \$58.4 million in 1971, is also a significant contributor to the mineral output of Quebec but tonnage has declined somewhat from 1970. Asbestos production has been fairly stable in output volume since 1968 but revenues were below those of 1970. In Canada, titanium dioxide is produced only in Quebec and is a valuable product with firm world markets; production value increased from \$35 million in 1970 to \$39 million in 1971.

**Ontario.** Ontario produces minerals valued at more than \$1,500 million annually. Metallics form most of this output and this group shows the greatest recent growth rate although the value was 5% lower in 1971 than in 1970. Nickel is the most important of the metallics, contributing 38% of the province's total value of minerals output in 1971, copper followed with 20%, iron ore with 9% and precious metals with 7%. The range of output is extremely diverse, more so than in any other province of Canada, and the value of metallics produced, not including nickel and copper, is almost as great as the total output value of minerals in Quebec.

Output of fuels in Ontario is relatively small and the non-metallics produced are principally salt, nepheline syenite, asbestos, sulphur and quartz in small quantities. Structural materials produced in 1971 increased in value to \$211 million from \$189 million in 1970.

Manitoba. Manitoba's mineral production in 1971 was valued at \$330 million, a little below the 1970 total. Of the 1971 value, metallic minerals comprised 86%, structural materials 8%,