

The rapid growth of mine and mill operations in the province will be given added impetus as a result of the announced policy of the British Columbia government on the smelting of ores. Producers will be expected to process within the province a significant proportion of their mineral output.

Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories. Yukon minerals production comprises metallics — mainly zinc, lead, copper and precious metals — and asbestos. Output is not large by national standards but it is increasing rapidly. In 1971, the \$93 million total output included zinc, \$39 million; lead, \$29 million; copper, \$3 million; silver, \$9 million; and asbestos, \$12 million.

Northwest Territories mineral output, valued at \$116 million in 1971, consists almost wholly of metallic minerals plus a little petroleum and natural gas. Output value was fairly steady in the 1968-70 period, but declined by 14% from 1970 to 1971. Zinc and lead comprised 85% of the output value.

12.1.2 Metals

Nickel. Canada's production of nickel in 1971 amounted to 294,341 tons valued at \$800,064,068, a 4% decrease in both quantity and value from 1970 (Table 12.9). Production was cut back in response to declining world nickel demand and accumulating inventories. The principal Canadian producers, The International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited (Inco) and Falconbridge Nickel Mines Limited, initiated programs during the year to reduce output and defer completion of new and expansion projects. Canada's position as the world's leading producer — 54% of world nickel production in 1971 (excluding the Sino-Soviet bloc) — remained intact but its proportion is declining with the introduction of new production from other countries, mainly the Dominican Republic, New Caledonia, Australia, the Philippines and Botswana.

In Ontario, where 73% of Canada's nickel was produced in 1971, Inco operated 14 mines, five concentrators and two smelters in the Sudbury area and a nickel refinery at Port Colborne. Inco brought three new mines and the 35,000-ton-per-day Clarabelle concentrator into operation during 1971 but suspended production at the Copper Cliff mill, the Creighton concentrator and the Murray mine. The company is developing one new mine in the Sudbury area and one near Shebandowan. The new Inco pressure carbonyl nickel refinery is being prepared for 1973 production. Falconbridge operated eight mines, four concentrators and a smelter, and is developing four new mines. Work on the new mines was deferred in 1971. Texmont Mines Limited began mining ore from its nickel deposit near Timmins in July 1971. Texmont concentrate is being stockpiled. At Werner Lake in northwestern Ontario, Consolidated Canadian Faraday Limited continued production and shipped bulk nickel-copper concentrate to Inco. Noranda Mines Limited is preparing its 700-ton-per-day Langmuir mine, near Timmins, for start-up in 1973.

In Manitoba, where 26% of Canada's nickel was produced in 1971, Inco operated an integrated nickel installation at Thompson for mining, concentrating, smelting and refining. Inco opened two new mines in 1971 but closed the Soab mine. Falconbridge commenced production in 1971 from its 1,000-ton-per-day Manibridge project, a mine and concentrator operation near Wabowden. Sherritt Gordon Mines Limited at Lynn Lake produced nickel concentrate for shipment to the company's refinery at Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. Supplementary feed for the refinery was obtained from Australia and New Caledonia. Dumbarton Mines Limited at Bird River trucked nickel-copper ore to the Faraday concentrator.

One mine produced nickel in Quebec in 1971 — Renzy Mines Limited in Hainault township. In British Columbia, Giant Mascot Mines Limited, near Hope, resumed operations after rebuilding surface facilities which were destroyed by fire in 1970. Giant Mascot ships bulk nickel-copper concentrate to Japan.

Copper. The production of recoverable copper from Canadian mines amounted to 721,430 tons valued at \$760,016,078 in 1971, an increase in volume of 48,713 tons but a decrease in value of \$19,226,325 over 1970 because of lower world prices for copper. Production of refined copper fell to 526,401 tons from 543,071 tons in the same period and consumption declined 16,785 tons to 221,053 tons. Exports of copper in concentrates increased by 45,739 tons to 224,858 tons and exports of refined copper increased by 19,960 tons to 312,363 tons.

Six smelters for the reduction of copper and nickel-copper ores and concentrates were