

mine at Long Lake, Rideau Lakes area, in March 1973. Lead production in Ontario rose 8.4% to 11,496 tons. The increase was due mainly to new production from Mattabi Mines Limited. Also Geco Mines Limited and Ecstall Mining Limited produced relatively small amounts of lead.

In Manitoba zinc production increased 45.6% to 66,396 tons. Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co., Limited continued full production from nine mines in the Flin Flon and Snow Lake districts of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Development of the Centennial mine, a copper-zinc orebody, began in mid-July 1973. Sherritt Gordon Mines, Limited increased production at its Fox Lake mine. The Ruttan copper-zinc mine of Sherritt Gordon started production in July 1973. A very small amount of lead was also produced.

In British Columbia zinc production increased 12.8% to 151,437 tons and lead production decreased 4.1% to 93,577 tons. Production at Cominco Ltd.'s Sullivan mine at Kimberley, the leading producer of lead and zinc in BC, was substantially higher in 1973 compared to 1972. Cominco Ltd. reopened its HB mine near Salmo which had been closed since late 1966. The Bradina mine of Bradina Joint Venture which commenced operations in 1972, closed on August 31, 1973. Western Mines Limited increased lead and zinc production in 1973.

In the Yukon Territory lead production increased 5.6% to 117,761 tons and zinc production increased 6.7% to 126,661 tons. Anvil Mining Corp. Limited, Canada's largest lead producer, expanded its concentrator from 8,000 to 10,000 tons a day by the end of the year. Lower grade ore can now be treated at a higher milling rate to maintain concentrate output. United Keno Hill Mines Limited decreased production of zinc but maintained production of lead at the 1972 level. Placer Development Limited discovered a significant zone of lead-zinc mineralization near Summit Lake on the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories border and extensive exploration and drilling of the deposit took place in 1973. Barrier Reef Resources Ltd. made what appears to be a significant discovery, 125 miles north of Mayo, on the Goz Creek property.

In the Northwest Territories lead production increased 10.8% and zinc production increased 6.7%. Pine Point Mines Limited, the sole producer of lead and zinc, modified its concentrator to increase capacity to 11,000 tons a day and to improve metallurgy. Pine Point prepared the first of the Coronet orebodies for open-pit production in 1974. An underground program consisting of a 5,300-ft decline adit and 600 ft of drifting was completed at the Polaris property of Arvik Mines Ltd. on Little Cornwallis Island. A 25-million ton orebody grading over 20% combined lead-zinc has been outlined. A shipment of 3,600 tons of ore was sent out for metallurgical testing and a feasibility study was under way. Mineral Resources International completed a feasibility study that recommended its Strathcona Sound zinc-lead-silver deposit on Baffin Island be put into production. The ore reserves are estimated at 6.9 million tons grading 15.5% combined lead-zinc.

There were four zinc refineries in operation at the end of 1973. Canadian Electrolytic Zinc Limited in Quebec refined mostly concentrates from mines associated with Noranda Mines, Limited. Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co., Limited produced a record amount of refined zinc in 1973. Ecstall's zinc plant commenced production in the second quarter of 1972 and reached near-capacity-level production in the second half of 1973. Cominco's refinery operated at near capacity except for a national rail strike and an electrical fire in the zinc plant in December. Cominco is currently expanding its capacity by 10,000 tons of refined zinc a year.

The lead refinery of Cominco Ltd. at Trail, BC, with a capacity of 210,000 tons annually, and that of Brunswick Mining and Smelting Corporation Limited at Belledune, NB, with an annual capacity of 70,000 tons, were Canada's only producers of primary lead metal. The Belledune plant was converted from an Imperial Smelting Process lead-zinc blast furnace to a conventional lead blast furnace processing lead concentrates only, with a capacity of 70,000 tons of refined lead annually.

Gold. The most significant event for the gold industry in 1973 was the sharp increase in the price of gold on the open market. The metal opened the year in London at US\$64.99 an ounce troy and by June 5 had increased to a high of US\$127.00. The price was comparatively stable from August to the end of the year with the monthly average varying from US\$94.78 an oz t to \$106.53. Toward the end of December the gold price again began to show an upward trend and closed at US\$112.25 an oz t at year end. Economic problems, lack of any concrete solutions to