

recommenced production late in the year. In Quebec production declined to 129,858 tons (117 805 t) valued at \$165.4 million from 158,991 tons (144 234 t) valued at \$246.5 million in 1974. About 25 mines were operated during 1975, the main centres of production being Rouyn-Noranda, Val d'Or, Matagami, Chibougamau, Murdochville and Stratford Centre.

Copper was produced at about 35 mines in Ontario in 1975, the main operations being the nickel-copper mines of the Sudbury district copper-zinc and copper mines near Timmins, and copper-zinc mines near Manitouwadge. Producers' shipments amounted to 292,296 tons (265 166 t) valued at \$372.4 million compared to 312,943 tons (283 897 t) valued at \$483.9 million in 1974.

Production in Manitoba and Saskatchewan was 79,284 tons (71 925 t) valued at \$101.0 million. The major producer was Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co., Limited, which produced copper in the Flin Flon and Snow Lake areas. Sherritt Gordon Mines, Limited at Lynn Lake, Fox Lake and Ruttan, and INCO at Thompson were the other main producers.

Production of copper in British Columbia in 1975 amounted to 265,999 tons (241 310 t) valued at \$338.9 million compared to 316,968 tons (287 549 t) valued at \$491.4 million in 1974. Most of the production in British Columbia comes from large open-pit mines. Production in the Yukon Territory decreased substantially in 1975 due to a reduction in shipments of concentrates from Whitehorse Copper Mines Ltd.

Iron ore. *All iron ore figures quoted in this text refer to long ton units of 2,240 lb. (1 016 kg).* Iron ore shipments in 1975 were 44,640,000 tons (45 360 000 t) compared with the previous year's 46,643,611 tons (47 392 097 t). These figures include about half a million tons (510 000 t) of by-product iron ore. The value of the shipments excluding by-product ore was \$923 million compared with \$724 million for the previous year.

Iron ore was produced by 16 mining companies at 18 locations, with nine operations in Ontario, four in Quebec, two in Labrador, two in British Columbia and one in Quebec-Labrador.

Shipments by province in 1975 were as follows: Newfoundland 22,836,000 tons (23 202 000 t); Quebec 10,893,000 tons (11 068 000 t); Ontario 9,683,000 tons (9 838 000 t) and British Columbia 1,228,000 tons (1 248 000 t). The Iron Ore Company of Canada (IOC) is the largest Canadian producer with 22,404,000 tons (22 764 000 t) followed by Quebec Cartier Mining at 8,136,000 tons (8 267 000 t) and Wabush Mines at 3,207,000 tons (3 258 000 t).

IOC's expansion of the Carol Lake concentrator from 10 million tons (10 200 000 t) to 22 million tons (22 400 000 t) a year and construction of a 6 million tons-a-year (6 100 000 t/yr) concentrator and pellet plant at Sept-Îles was completed in 1975. The concentrator ranks among the world's largest iron ore beneficiation plants. Its production capacity was expected to be reached in 1977. Unexpected mechanical and metallurgical problems associated with the complex treatment ore of Schefferville precluded the efficient operation of the new facilities at Sept-Îles and at the end of 1975 pellet plant production capacity had reached only 3 million tons (3 050 000 t) a year.

Quebec Cartier Mining Company (QCM) continued to develop the Mount Wright iron ore project in Quebec, despite construction slowdowns due to labour strikes in 1974. Production in 1975 was 406,000 tons (413 000 t). Included in the Mount Wright development is the construction of a concentrator with a minimum production capacity of 18 million tons (18 300 000 t) of iron ore concentrate (66% Fe) with provision for an ultimate annual capacity of 24 million tons (24 400 000 t) of concentrate. Minimum capacity is expected to be reached in 1978. Two thirds of the production will be exported to Europe and one third will go to US Steel. QCM is also involved in the Fire Lake development in Quebec. The participants in this project include Sidbec-Dosco Limited with 50.1% of the ownership, British Steel Corporation 41.67% and QCM 8.23%. The new company formed to develop the Fire Lake iron deposit is called Sidbec-Normines Ltd.