

Crude ore from Fire Lake is transported by rail to the Lac Jeannine concentrator where 6 million tons (6 100 000 t) a year of concentrate are produced from both the Fire Lake mine and the Lac Jeannine mine where ore reserves were expected to be depleted by 1976. At Port Cartier a pellet plant is under construction to use the concentrate from the Lac Jeannine concentrator. When completed the plant is expected to produce 3.0 million tons (3 050 000 t) a year of pellets with an iron content of 65% and a silica content greater than 6% and 3.0 million tons (3 050 000 t) a year of pellets grading 68% iron and less than 2% silica. The former product will be used in standard blast furnaces while the latter will be used as direct reduction feed mainly for Sidbec-Dosco's operations at Contrecoeur.

Shipments from Wabush Mines decreased considerably from 5.4 million tons (5 500 000 t) in 1974 to 3.2 million tons (3 300 000 t) in 1975. This was because of a six-month strike.

In Ontario, labour problems also took their toll of production at several iron ore mines such as at Steep Rock Iron Mine Limited, Caland Ore Company Limited, the Griffith mine and The International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited. During the year, Canadian Pacific Investments Limited (CPI) acquired 60% of the issued shares of Steep Rock Iron Mines Limited (SRIM) which in turn owns the Lake St. Joseph property. CPI also controls Algoma Steel Corporation which purchased iron ore from SRIM's existing mine at Atikokan, Ont. Also, Dominion Foundries and Steel Limited (DOFASCO) purchased the property of Anaconda Iron Ore Limited at Nakina, Ont.

Iron ore deposits investigated in Canada during 1975 included the Lac Albanel owned partly by the province of Quebec; Star O'Keefe Iron Ore owned by Canadian Javelin with a deposit near Mount Wright, Que.; and the Clear Hills deposit near Peace River, Alta.

In Newfoundland in 1975 a significant event in iron ore development was the unexpected reversion to the province of certain mineral lands embracing 1.29 sq miles (3.34 km²) of the Julian Lake iron ore deposit near Wabush in Labrador. In exercising this expropriation the Newfoundland government claimed that Canadian Javelin had not proceeded "with due diligence" to develop mining operations at the site.

Canadian imports of iron ore increased from 2.3 million tons (2 300 000 t) in 1974 to 4.7 million tons (4 800 000 t) in 1975. Imports are likely to increase in the medium term as Canadian steelmakers continue to invest in US taconite operations. The Tilden mine in Michigan, in which both the Algoma Steel Corporation Limited and The Steel Company of Canada (STELCO) have equity, came into production in December 1974 with the resultant increase of iron ore shipments to Canada throughout the year. Additional iron ore imports were expected to flow in 1976 when the Eveleth Taconite Company of Minnesota, in which DOFASCO holds equity and the Hibbing Taconite Company in Minnesota, in which STELCO has an equity, came into production.

Exports of iron ore declined in 1975 to 36.0 million tons (36 600 000 t) from 36.9 million tons (37 500 000 t) in 1974. Consumption was an estimated 12.5 million tons (12 700 000 t) in 1975 as compared to 12.9 million tons (13 107 000 t) in 1974.

Lead and zinc. Canadian production of lead in 1975 was 373,065 tons (338 439 t) valued at \$152 million, an increase of 15.0% in volume and 13.0% in value compared to the previous year (Table 12.12). Output of refined lead was 189,064 tons (171 516 t), a 36% increase from 1974.

Production of zinc in 1975 was 1.2 million tons (1.1 million t) valued at \$895 million. Production increased 3.2% in value with volume unchanged from the previous year (Table 12.13). Output of refined zinc was 470,622 tons (426 941 t) in 1975, almost unchanged from 1974.

Exports of refined lead in 1975 increased to 121,195 tons (109 946 t) up 49.8% from 1974. Exports of refined zinc in 1975 declined to 272,525 tons (247 231 t) down 16.5% from 1974 reflecting the commercial recession in major