

Notable headway was made during the review period toward the completion of a number of mining and related projects that have been under way for several years. One of the largest of these is the Quebec-Labrador iron-ore development, involving an expenditure of approximately \$200,000,000. The 358-mile railway to connect the deposits to the port of Seven Islands is scheduled for completion by the end of 1953 and shipments from the deposits are expected to commence in the summer of 1954. Thus, in a matter of months, one of the largest potential sources of iron ore in the world will have been brought into operation. Another large project within a few months of completion is the Trans Mountain pipeline which will carry crude oil from wells in the Edmonton area to the Vancouver area and also into northwestern United States.\* The 711-mile pipeline will cost an estimated \$90,000,000. Still another nearing completion is the Lynn Lake nickel-copper project of Sherritt Gordon Mines Limited, about 500 miles north and slightly west of Winnipeg, Man., and its related project at Fort Saskatchewan in Alberta. The whole project, including the 147-mile railway from Sherridon, Man., to Lynn Lake, and the refinery plants at Fort Saskatchewan, will cost an estimated \$52,000,000.

The International Nickel Company of Canada Limited is bringing to completion a \$150,000,000 program involving a changeover from open-pit and underground to entirely underground operations, a substantial increase in the annual tonnage of ore mined, the introduction of oxygen flash smelting of the Company's copper concentrates in which all smelting heat requirements are met by reacting the concentrates with oxygen, and the erection of a concentrator at the Creighton property capable of handling 12,000 tons of ore daily.

Nearing completion also is a program of plant expansion in the cement industry which was started in 1947 and was necessitated by the greatly accelerated post-war activities in the construction industries. It will raise Canada's cement-making capacity to approximately 22,000,000 bbl. a year.

At the same time, the asbestos industry has been undergoing considerable expansion, more particularly in the Eastern Townships of Quebec, source of over 97 p.c. of the Canadian output of asbestos. Here, the leading producer, Canadian Johns-Manville Company Limited, has been expanding and modernizing its facilities at Asbestos and is replacing the present milling plant. Asbestos Corporation is developing a new mine on a recently discovered deposit from which production is expected in 1954. Regular production of asbestos from Cassiar Asbestos Corporation's McDame mountain deposit in northern British Columbia is expected to commence in July 1953.

Throughout the period under review, crude oil and natural gas developments were prominently to the forefront, a main development being the decision of Inter-provincial Pipe Line Company to extend the pipeline from its present terminus at Superior, Wis., to Sarnia, Ont., a distance of approximately 635 miles. Present indications are that the extension will be in operation by the spring of 1954. The construction of this extension and of the Trans Mountain pipeline to Vancouver will pave the way for an increase in the daily output of crude petroleum from fields in Western Canada to an eventual 600,000 bbl. There were several other developments of interest in connection with crude petroleum. These are covered in the special article, "Canadian Crude Petroleum Situation", at pp. 540-544, and, accordingly, little further reference is made to them in this review. Quite apart from actual developments in the various fields in Western Canada, much of the interest in natural gas was centred on the likelihood or otherwise of bringing the gas by pipeline into Ontario and

\*The pipeline was officially opened Oct. 16, 1953.