

where ore reserves are estimated at 1,050,000 tons, and Opemiska Copper Mines began construction of a 400-ton mill with production planned in 1953. Connecting roads have been built into the properties from the highway.

Production of non-metallics increased in value from \$135,284,079 in 1951 to \$147,812,017 in 1952. Of this, the output of asbestos, which comes from seven producing companies, accounted for \$85,025,942 in 1952, an increase of \$7,398,079 over that of 1951 owing partly to an increase in prices and partly to the mining and marketing of better-grade material. Actual volume of output in 1952, however, amounted to 943,123 tons, a decrease of 3,487 tons below that of 1951.

During the past few years, much expansion has taken place in the asbestos industry. The leading producer, Canadian Johns-Manville Company Limited, is expanding and modernizing its facilities at Asbestos where it operates the Jeffrey mine, the world's largest asbestos mine. The Company is rebuilding and enlarging its mill and making a gradual changeover to underground mining. Expansion programs are also being carried out by: Asbestos Corporation Limited which has four producing mines, King and Beaver at Thetford Mines, British Canadian at Black Lake, and Vimy in Coleraine township; Johnson's Limited which operates an underground mine at Thetford Mines and an open pit at Black Lake; and Bell Asbestos Mines Limited which has converted its operation at Thetford to underground mining. Other producing companies comprise Flintkote Mines Limited a few miles east of Thetford Mines, Quebec Asbestos Corporation Limited at East Broughton, and Nicolet Asbestos Mines Limited at St. Remi de Tingwick.

Dominion Asbestos Mines Limited plans production in 1953 from a deposit near St. Adrien, Wolfe County. Exploratory and development work is being carried out at a number of other properties.

Cement and other structural materials, magnesitic dolomite, sulphur and titanium dioxide make up most of the remainder of non-metallic production. Cement production increased almost 260,000 bbl. in volume of output in 1952 over 1951 to a total of 7,312,537 bbl. valued at \$19,027,592. Production comes from the wet-process plants of Canada Cement Company Limited at Montreal and Hull and from the new plant of Le Ciment Québec at St. Basile where new kilns are expected to go into production later in 1953 bringing plant capacity to 1,500,000 bbl. a year.

Increasingly large quantities of sand and gravel are being produced by Quebec's 52 operators for use in concrete works, buildings and road construction. Production in 1952 increased to 33,687,000 tons valued at \$11,787,000 compared with 31,298,000 tons valued at \$10,617,000 in 1951.

Quebec is the only source of magnesia minerals worked in Canada for magnesia products. Output rose in value from \$2,438,000 in 1951 to \$2,914,000 in 1952. Dolomitic magnesite is mined by underground methods at Kilmar in Argenteuil County to supply raw materials for the basic refractories plant of Canadian Refractories Limited. At Wakefield, Aluminum Company of Canada Limited recovers magnesia from a deposit of brucitic limestone.

Sulphur showed a marked increase in volume and value of output in 1952 increasing from 161,489 tons valued at \$895,253 in 1951 to 219,738 tons valued at \$1,519,149 in 1952. Output consisted of sulphuric acid which is produced from domestic by-product pyrite by Nichols Chemical Company Limited at its Valleyfield plant where current plant expansion will approximately double the previous plant output. This production was augmented during the review period by Aluminum