

Growth in mineral industry

Minister of State for Mines Robert Layton recently released figures showing that Canada's mineral industry experienced a moderate but sustained economic growth in 1984. The value of mineral output increased by \$4.6 billion from 1983 to 1984.

The total value of output of the four sectors of the industry — metalics, non-metallics, structural materials and fuels — reached \$43 billion, compared with \$38.5 billion the previous year. The metallic sector, after recording a 7.6 per cent increase in value in 1983, reached \$8.5 billion in 1984, a 14.9 per cent increase. Value of output for nonmetallics and structural materials totalled \$4.2 billion, up 13.5 per cent from the previous year. The fuel sector, by far the largest of the four, totalled \$30 billion, an increase of 10.5 per cent.

Increase in top groups

On a commodity basis, the ten leading minerals in 1984 were petroleum, natural gas, natural gas byproducts, coal, iron ore, zinc, copper, gold, nickel and uranium. These represented 87 per cent of the total value of output of the industry, and all except copper, gold and silver showed increases over the previous year's figures.

News briefs

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has announced a \$19.4-million (Cdn) financing agreement to support a sale by Pirelli Cables Inc. of Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec, to LCI Communications Inc. of Worthington, Ohio, for a telecommunications network in seven US states. The sale involves the supply of fibre optic cable which will be manufactured at Pirelli Cables Surrey, British Columbia plant.

Northern Telecom Inc., the US subsidiary of Northern Telecom Limited in Mississauga, Ontario, has signed a three-year agreement with Ameritech Services to supply communications transmission equipment on an as-ordered basis to the five Bell companies of the American Information Technologies (Ameritech) corporate family. The actual value of the multi-million dollar contract cannot be determined until the Bell companies — Illinois Bell, Indiana Bell, Michigan Bell, Ohio Bell, and Wisconsin Bell — decide how much equipment they will order from Northern Telecom under the agreement. The contract, which sets the terms, conditions and price of purchases, covers Northern

Some changes in leading minerals from 1983

	1984 production value (\$ million)	Change in volume (per cent)	Change in value (per cent)
Metals			
Iron ore	1 500	+24.6	+15.8
Copper	1 400	+9.1	-1.0
Zinc	1 400	+3.5	+26.7
Nickel	1 200	+39.3	+49.1
Gold	1 200	+10.6	-0.2
Uranium	916	+42.1	+37.2
Silver	409	-2.2	-24.9
Lead	190	-4.6	+18.9
Molybdenum	109	+6.6	+24.2
Nonmetals and structurals			
Potash	759	+10.8	+17.6
Sulphur, elemental	574	+16.1	+34.4
Cement	667	+9.5	+10.1
Clay products	141	..	+6.5
Fuels			
Petroleum	17 900	+5.4	+11.2
Natural gas	7 500	+2.0	+6.2
Natural gas byproducts	2 800	+7.7	+3.8
Coal	1 800	+26.8	+39.1

The largest share of output was in Alberta, where 60 per cent of the total or \$26 billion was reached in 1984, up from \$24.1 billion in 1983. Ontario followed with 10 per cent of the total, reaching \$4.5 billion. Output was up slightly in British Columbia, totalling

\$3.4 billion. Quebec remained unchanged with \$2 billion. With the re-opening of some mining operations, the Northwest Territories showed the sharpest increase as the value of output reached \$738 million in 1984 compared with \$595 million in 1983.

Telecom's full range of transmission products, including digital radio, fibre optic cable, fibre optic terminals, channel banks, multiplexers, digital line equipment, and subscriber carrier systems.

An Official Residences Council has been established to ensure the maintenance and preservation of the historic, cultural and architectural integrity of the official residences owned and operated by the government of Canada. It will advise the government on the development, maintenance, and operation of the buildings and grounds of the official residences for the governor general, the speaker of the House of Commons, the prime minister, the leader of the opposition, and the government's official guest house.

Minister of State for Science and Technology Tom Siddon has announced a new award for excellence in engineering design. The award will be part of the Canada Awards for Excellence program administered by the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion. In his announcement, Mr. Siddon noted that the award, which will be given for the first time in 1985, will honour a professional engineer whose work has led to the development of a new product design

with demonstrated potential for commercial viability in the international market-place.

Billy Chau of Edmonton, Alberta defeated Milt Bennett of Portland, Oregon in the seventh round of a World Karate Association (WKA) super-welterweight (70 kilogram) title fight in Reno, Nevada in January. The referee stopped the fight and awarded a knockout to Billy Chau, who had knocked Milt Bennett to the canvas in the second and sixth rounds, forcing a standing eight count. Billy Chau was ranked No. 1 by the WKA in the super-welterweight division prior to the fight.

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