

eventual production of 4.3 million horse-power of electric energy to be used in the operation of smelter and refineries that will treat ores from Canada and from various other countries. The development indicates the dimensions of some of the undertakings in the northerly regions of our country.

We come next to the Northwest Territories, the largest by far of Canada's political sub-divisions and considering that they include the Arctic Islands, the least known. Practically all the mineral output comes from three relatively small areas, namely the Norman Wells field, which contributes a small production of oil; Port Radium on the east side of Great Bear Lake, a main world source of uranium; and the Yellowknife area north of Great Slave Lake, where considerable gold is produced. The total mineral output in 1953 was valued at only \$10,521,000, very small indeed for an area of 1,305,000 square miles, but ten times greater than the value in 1946. In both years the value is exclusive of pitchblende products, figures for which are not published. Changes have been occurring, however, the two major developments being at Pine Point on the south side of Great Bear Lake and at Rankin Inlet on the west side of Hudson Bay.

At Pine Point we have what shows some promise of proving to be one of the major disclosures of lead-zinc ore on this continent. However, much work remains to be done before a proper appraisal can be made. Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company and Ventures Limited have already outlined several million tons of ore by drilling.

The Rankin Inlet development is about 300 miles north of Fort Churchill. It is a nickel, copper, platinum property and is being developed toward production.

The fact that most of the Northwest Territories is underlain by potential ore-bearing Precambrian formations suggests that many finds remain to be made.

Turning now to British Columbia, the main post-war change has been at Kitimat, scene of the huge Aluminum Company of Canada project. This will eventually account for a production of 500,000 metric tons of aluminum a year and will bring Canada's total annual output to 1,000,000 tons. Production was commenced in July last at an initial rate of 90,000 tons a year. The ore will all be imported and thus for Canada, it is a manufacturing rather than a mining project.

Before mentioning the other major changes in British Columbia, I should perhaps note that this province accounts for close to 80 per cent of Canada's output of lead, 47 per cent of the zinc, 37 per cent of the silver, and is an important producer of coal, tungsten, iron ore and other minerals. In annual value its mineral output increased from \$74,600,000 in 1946 to \$160,700,000 in 1953.

I will mention the other major changes briefly, with some of the pertinent facts:

First is the development of asbestos deposits by Cassiar Asbestos Corporation Limited in the McDame Lake area in northern British Columbia. Regular