

the processing of forest products employs approximately 80,000 people.

Fishing

Ontario commercial fishing is modest compared to that of the coastal provinces. The widely scattered industry is concentrated in Lake Erie, the shallowest and warmest of the Great Lakes, where 90 per cent of all Ontario fish are harvested. More than 350 smaller inland lakes, mainly in northwestern Ontario, are also fished commercially. The province has 5,000 fishermen and 900 other workers engaged in processing and handling.

Among the species harvested are yellow perch, smelt, white fish, pickerel, pike, lake trout, herring, chub and carp. The commercial fishing industry contributes \$25 million to the Canadian economy. Ontario's fresh-water area of approximately 177,000 square kilometres also attracts extensive sport fishing.

Mining

The rich base-metal potential of the Canadian Shield was recognized long before serious attempts were made to exploit it. This has made Ontario the country's leading mining province.

The great boom in Ontario mining took place following the Second World War. In 1952, major uranium

deposits were found north of Lake Huron. The town of Elliot Lake, which soon sprang up, became one of the most productive uranium mining areas in the world and is still a leading source of the mineral.

In the 1960s, just as the original mine of the Porcupine Lake area was running out of gold, considerable deposits of copper and zinc were found nearby. Since then, other base-metal mines have started production. Among them are several iron ore mines. Most are open pit mines, such as those at Steep Rock, where a lake was drained to allow access to the ore body.

Under Lake Huron, near Goderich, miners quarry Canada's most extensive deposits of rock salt. And the Sudbury basin provides more than one-third of the world's nickel, two-fifths of Canada's copper and the Western world's largest supply of platinum and related metals. The value of mineral production in Ontario in 1979 was an estimated \$3.2 billion.

Manufacturing

Around the western shores of Lake Ontario are the rich industrial communities called the "Golden Horseshoe". Forty per cent of Ontario's population lives in this industrial band, which includes metropolitan Toronto (population 2.1 million) Hamilton (300,000),