

near the Arctic. They account for over 95 per cent of Canada's crude oil output, most of the natural gas and much of the coal. Mineral production from the region climbed from \$29,700,000 in 1946 to \$244,400,000 in 1953, with promise of a two-fold increase before many years have passed, mainly from a wealth of oil and gas developments.

Next comes the Canadian Shield, largest by far of Canada's geological provinces and the source in 1953 of 42 per cent of the Canadian mineral production. This great region of Precambrian rocks has an area of 1,800,000 square miles and although its exploration may be said to have begun when Jacques Cartier sailed up the St. Lawrence River in 1534, the task is still far from complete, as I will indicate later. It covers all of Labrador, much the greater part of Quebec province, most of Ontario and Manitoba, parts of Saskatchewan and Alberta, and the eastern mainland of Northwest Territories.

Bordering the Canadian Shield on the south and extending northeasterly from Lake Huron and the head of Lake Erie to Anticosti Island is the geological subdivision known as the St. Lawrence Lowlands.

The three Maritime Provinces and the Island of Newfoundland comprise the Appalachian Region. The Arctic Islands of Canada, together with Boothia and Melville Peninsulas form the Arctic Archipelago, with a total land area of 525,000 square miles. We know comparatively little of the potentialities of this vast region as yet but we are adding to our knowledge each year and I might state we have considerable reason to believe that portions of the region are rich in mineral resources.

Changes in Mineral Landscape

I have stated that the growth in Canadian mining has been truly remarkable. The changes that have taken place since the war provide evidence aplenty of this. However, I shall deal only with those changes that will give you a clue to the overall pattern of the growth, and incidentally to the outlook. I will start with Yukon and Northwest Territories and will there go from west to east through the various provinces.

Yukon, by way of background, has been a substantial contributor to the Canadian mineral output since 1896 when the far-famed Klondike gold rush got underway, but its production is relatively small in relation to its size. It amounted to \$14,400,000 in 1953, which, it should be noted, is nine times the value of output in 1946.

Placer gold mining is still going strong but the main interest since the war has been centered in United Keno Hill Company's silver-lead-zinc operations in the Mayo area. The company is Canada's largest single source of silver, with an output of over 6,000,000 ounces in 1953. This whole region is considered to be potentially important as a productive source of lead and zinc.

You may have seen reports recently of a \$700 million power and metallurgical project to be undertaken by Quebec Metallurgical Industries Limited in Yukon and northern British Columbia. The project will involve the