

We move now to the Chibougamau area, roughly 130 miles northwest of Lake St. John. Mineral exploration came almost to a halt prior to the war owing to low prices and inadequate transportation. Transportation has since been greatly improved and copper prices have risen, and as a result, one copper-gold property is in production and two others are planning production. The area is to be connected by rail to the transcontinental line of the Canadian National Railway. Hydro-electric power will be available next year.

No coverage of the post-war changes in Quebec would be complete without reference to some of the developments in that part of old Quebec lying mainly east of Montreal and south of the St. Lawrence River known as the Eastern Townships. It is from deposits in this region that about 60 per cent of the world output of asbestos is obtained. This Canadian industry has undergone exceptional expansion in recent years. When the whole programme is completed it will have involved the expenditure of an estimated \$100,000,000 in the reconstruction of milling plants, in the bringing of new plants into production and in general, in the modernization of the whole industry. A \$20,000,000 project now being started involves the draining of an entire lake to gain access to the extensive orebody beneath.

The post-war years have also seen a revival of interest in the base metal potential of this region. Three producers are in operation and a fourth, Eastern Metals Corporation Limited, is expected to commence production early in 1955.

Major Base Metal Discovery in New Brunswick

Leaving Quebec, we come to the Bathurst area in New Brunswick, the scene two years ago of one of the most spectacular base metal discoveries in Canada's history. It looked big then and it still does. For a province that produced no metals and had only a small output of minerals, the development is of the greatest importance. Work to date has shown that upwards of 50 million tons of lead-zinc-copper ore containing tin and silver are available in the two major orebodies. Production is still a few years away. Present indications are it will be at a rate of 4,000 tons daily, and will later be increased to 6,000 or 8,000 tons. Large chemical and metallurgical works are also in the offing.

The last two changes are the result of what is now the province of Newfoundland joining Canada in March 1949. This brought within the Canadian economy the Wabana iron ore deposits in the southeastern part of the island of Newfoundland which are estimated to contain four billion tons of ore. It also gave Canada an abundant supply of fluorspar, which had previously been a deficient mineral.

Factors in Post-War Mining Growth

From this sort of cross-sectional account of the nature and dimensions of the post-war growth, we turn now to a consideration of some of the factors that have brought it about. If you were to say that much of the growth was underscored by dogged determination and perseverance, with a good sprinkling of Mr. Churchill's famous sweat and tears, you would be quite right. Certainly it was dogged perseverance on the part of Imperial Oil Limited and its