

Annual Report
1955

28th

Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR
ENDING 31st DECEMBER

1055

ALUMINIUM LIMITED MONTREAL, CANADA



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FIELD MARSHAL EARL ALEXANDER OF TUNIS, K.G.

DANA T. BARTHOLOMEW

E. G. MACDOWELL

DR. DONALD K. DAVID

EDWIN J. MEJIA

NATHANAEL V. DAVIS

R. E. POWELL

JAMES A. DULLEA

H. H. RICHARDSON

DR. E. C. HARDER

M. B. DE SOUSA PERNES

N. BAXTER JACKSON

JOHN L. SULLIVAN

PAUL LAROQUE

Officers

NATHANAEL V. DAVIS, President

R. E. POWELL, Senior Vice President and Director of Operations

JAMES A. DULLEA, Senior Vice President, Secretary and Chief Secretarial Officer

DANA T. BARTHOLOMEW, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

E. G. MACDOWELL, Vice President and Chief Sales Management Officer

EDWIN J. MEJIA, Vice President and Chief Public & Employee Relations Officer

H. H. RICHARDSON, Vice President and Chief Technical Officer

J. F. EVANS, Treasurer

PAUL LAROQUE, Ass't. Secretary and Ass't. Treasurer

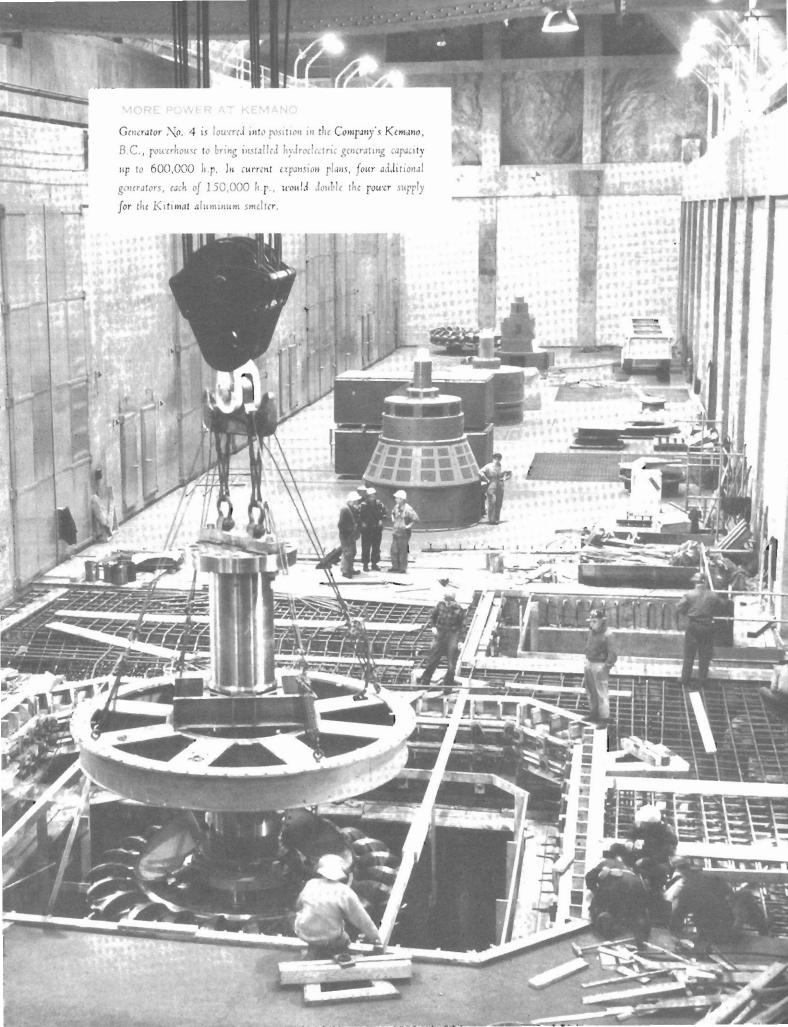
K. C. BALA, Assistant Secretary

A. A. BRUNEAU, Assistant Secretary

D. CASSELMAN Ross, Assistant Secretary

O. E. Colling, Assistant Treasurer

D. M. KERTLAND, Assistant Treasurer





to the Shareholders of

ALUMINIUM LIMITED

I would like to submit, on behalf of the Board of Directors, the 28th Annual Report of Aluminium Limited for the year 1955. The financial statements of Aluminium Limited and its consolidated subsidiaries for the year ended December 31st, 1955, together with the report thereon by the auditors, Price Waterhouse and Co., form a part of this report.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The aluminum industry as a whole had a record year in 1955, reaching new high levels of production, sales and profits. Aluminium Limited and its subsidiaries in Canada and abroad participated in the high levels of activity both in the fields of primary and semi-fabricated products. Consolidated earnings were above all previous years.

The Company's production of primary aluminum in 1955 again increased and all available ingot and semi-fabricated products were readily sold. Throughout the year all markets served by the Company were strong and aluminum products were often in short supply. Sales and operating revenues were \$412 million in 1955 compared to \$328 million in 1954.

Net income for the year 1955, after depreciation and dividends on preferred shares of subsidiaries, was \$48,193,952 or the equivalent of \$4.83 per share on the 9,975,690 shates outstanding at the end of the year. For the year 1954 on the same basis, net income was \$34,970,025 or the equivalent of \$3.87 per share on the 9,036,382 shares outstanding at the end of that year.

Provision for "straight-line" depreciation and for depletion was increased from \$22,716,593 in 1954 to \$30,099,298; current income taxes increased from \$20,658,857 to \$25,958,416 while the amount reserved for future income taxes was \$18,256,303 in 1955 compared to \$15,500,020 in 1954.

Capital expenditures of \$71 million were made during 1955, bringing the Company's total capital outlay for the five-year period 1951-1955 up to an aggregate of \$554 million. At the year end, the total assets employed in the business, after depreciation reserves, stood at \$953 million.

In the second quarter of 1955 the quarterly dividend was increased from 50 cents (U.S. funds) per share to 55 cents per share and this rate was maintained for the remainder of the year. Total dividend disbursements were the equivalent of \$21,076,253 in Canadian currency as compared with \$17,632,896 in 1954, the latger total in 1955 resulting from the higher dividend rate and the larger number of shares outstanding.

The results for the year were, nevertheless, adversely affected by two occurrences which caused loss of production. The first was an interruption of power deliveries to the Kitimat smelter in the early part of the year and the second, a severe water shortage in the Saguenay area of Quebec in the latter part of the year. The full impact of these adversities on the Company and its markets cannot be precised. Had operations been at capacity levels throughout 1955, production and sales would have been approximately 6% above their actual levels with a corresponding or slightly larger increase in profits. From the important viewpoint of serving our markets, the loss of production came at a time when demand from customers was exceptionally strong and the Company was anxious but unable to meet their full requirements.

Unfortunately, the curtailment of production and deliveries has extended into the current year. Production in 1956 has been sharply cut as a result of the water shortage but it is expected that after the spring breakup in April, operations will return to normal. Having regard for the lag between production and sales, the financial results for the first six months of the current year will be burdened with the loss of production sustained during the months before the spring thaw. The tonnage loss is estimated at 10% of this year's previously planned production.

In spite of the Company's record earnings last year, profits in relation to the assets now employed in the business are not large and leave room for improvement if the construction of new facilities is to be justified. Today the small production of aluminum at Kitimat cannot earn a return on the large investment made in the hydroelectric facilities which have been, in large part, designed and built to provide for higher levels of production. This is the natural result of the type and scope of the integrated programme undertaken at Kitimat. By the end of this year, with new and enlarged aluminum facilities coming into production, the Kitimat development is expected to reach a position where it will begin to justify the investment.

OPERATIONS



ALUMINUM INGOT AND POWER

The Company's principal subsidiary, Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd., produced a record 607,700 tons* of primary aluminum during the year, an 8% increase over 1954 production of 560,900 tons and 11% greater than 1953. The four smelters in the province of Quebec produced a total of 540,600 tons of primary metal. The Kitimat smelter, in the province of British Columbia, fell short of rated capacity by approximately 23,000 tons due to the production difficulties encountered as a result of a break in the electrical transmission line caused by a snowslide. Permanent repairs on the transmission line were completed during the summer and should minimize the likelihood of a second such occurrence.

Later, in December 1955, the Company's Quebec smelters were forced to curtail production from full capacity levels. This curtailment resulted from abnormally low streamflow—the lowest in 40 years—in the Saguenay River and Lake St. John district during the 3rd and 4th quarters of the year, coupled with an early winter freeze-up. The cutback at Quebec smelters is expected to continue until the arrival of spring floods in April.

During the year the Company authorized successive increments of expansion of primary production facilities. As the year closed, the Company's expansion programme in Canada embraced a total of 262,000 tons of new annual capacity as described in more detail on page 11.

Subsidiary and affiliated smelting companies outside Canada operated at highest attainable levels in 1955, and several expansion projects were advanced. A decision was taken by Indian Aluminium Company, Ltd., to proceed with the erection of an aluminum smelter of 11,000 tons' annual capacity at Hirakud in the State of Orissa. The project envisages an ultimate capacity of 22,000 tons per annum. This company, in which Aluminium Limited owns a majority interest in partnership with 3,000 private local investors, has since 1938 actively developed an integrated aluminum enterprise in India. Its smelter capacity has recently been doubled to 5,000 tons of aluminum ingot per year.

Plans for increasing smelting capacity in Brazil, Iraly, Norway and Japan are under consideration by subsidiaries and affiliares in these countries.

The Company's magnesium ingot operations in Canada were continued in 1955 with total production of 3,400 tons. Approximately 50% of the output was used for the purpose of alloying with aluminum, and the remainder was marketed for a number of developing uses mainly in the transportation field. The United Kingdom was the chief market for magnesium.

^{*}Short Tons of 2,000 pounds each are used throughout this report.



RAW MATERIALS

This year's bauxite production of various grades by the Company's mining subsidiaries amounted to 2,450,000 tons in British Guiana, 544,000 tons in French West Africa and 518,000 tons in Jamaica. The Jamaican ore was largely converted to alumina on site and shipped mainly to Kitimat, B.C. The bulk of bauxite output from the other two main sources was moved as such to the Saguenay district for conversion there to alumina and subsequent use in Quebec smelters. These bauxite supplies from wholly-owned subsidiaries were supplemented during 1955 by purchases from a third party.

An adequate supply of alumina was made available for Canadian smelters by plants located in Arvida, P.Q. and Jamaica. A specially constructed vessel for making bulk shipments of alumina from Jamaica to Kitimat was put into service early in 1955.

Fluorspar was produced in required quantities by a subsidiary mining company in the Province of Newfoundland. Investigations were also carried out during the year in other fluorspar-bearing areas and new fluorspar reserves are being acquired.



ALUMINUM FABRICATING

The strong demand for semi-fabricated products noted towards the end of 1954 continued throughout 1955 with the result that the Company's fabricating facilities, while restricted by the availability of metal supplies, had a satisfactory year with their total earnings substantially above previous years. Concurrently with its investment in smelting facilities, the Company has continued to modernize and expand its fabricating activities. In the United Kingdom, the modernization of the sheet rolling mill at Banbury by Northern Aluminium Company, Ltd., has already made substantial progress. The new extrusion plant in South Africa is now in operation. Improvement and expansion of fabricating facilities, with particular emphasis on foil rolling, is in hand in Canada, Switzerland, Japan, Brazil, and Mexico. The sheet, extrusion and cable plant of an affiliate in Spain is nearing completion, and will begin operations early in 1956. The Company has also expanded its activities in South America by acquiring an interest in a fabricating plant in Uruguay.

Following the pattern of recent years, the consolidated sales of semi-fabricated products were about one-third the tonnage of sales of primary aluminum.

MARKETS AND SALES

In the aluminum industry as a whole, the year 1955 was characterized by wide-spread and heavy demand for aluminum and new record levels of production. Primary aluminum production in the Free World reached an estimated total of 2,852,000 short tons, an increase of 7.5% over the 1954 rate. This supply, coupled with some relaxation of stockpiling purchases in the United States, permitted consumption in the Free World to rise by an estimated 20% over 1954, but large areas of demand in North America and abroad could not be entirely filled. This large demand was particularly apparent in the latter part of the year and has carried over into the current quarter of 1956.

The strength in all aluminum markets in 1955 was a reflection of general high levels of industrial activity together with the metal's continuing success in broadening its uses and markets. The recent rapid growth in fabricating plant facilities, including many installed by independent or "non-integrated" companies in several countries, has greatly increased the demand on primary aluminum producers.

Over the broad geographic area served by Aluminium Limited, the principal fields of aluminum consumption in 1955, as in preceding years, were the following: transportation equipment for land, sea and air; building and architectural uses; the distribution of electricity and manufacture of electrical equipment; household and commercial supplies and canning and packaging.

Many applications of aluminum developed in earlier years made significant advances during 1955. Among these were the introduction of coloured exterior aluminum "curtain walls" and the growth of builders' interest in this construction principle. Also of interest was the introduction of anodized aluminum body trim on certain models of higher-priced North American automobiles.

Industrial aluminum pipe and fittings were introduced on a wide basis during 1955 and international interest was shown in the competitive replacement potential thereby offered for standard iron pipe. As a result of increasing copper prices and technical advances, the usage of aluminum is being introduced in the manufacture of telephone cable circuits. The advances made in the general field of joining techniques have been: (a) the adaptation of aluminum products to mass production operations, (b) new fluxes for brazing of aluminum to itself and to dissimilar metals and (c) new mechanical coupling methods for electrical conductors. In addition, a flame cutting process was developed, an art commonly employed in steel work but not heretofore in aluminum.

To assist customers in adapting new techniques to their own particular needs, a comprehensive film on high-speed aluminum welding and another dealing with irrigation tubing

and Consolidated Subsidiaries

were among the technical films produced and made available to consumers by the Company during the year. A further contribution to customer services was made by the Company's 1955 expansion of capacity to supply primary metal in the form of rolling and extrusion ingot to customers' specifications.

Sales of aluminum in all forms and from all sources by consolidated subsidiaries of Aluminium Limited amounted to 681,310 short tons last year and wete 15% above the 592,318 tons marketed by the Company in 1954. As in previous years, the principal markets served were the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada.

Shipments of Canadian aluminum in ingot form in the past five years have been as follows, in short tons:

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
United Kingdom	199,750	257,750	184,600	221,800	267,100
U. S. A.	103,100	114,500	237,000	192,560	193,200
Canada	86,350	88,550	90,200	000,08	85,000
All Others	53,800	39,150	37,900	60,840	64,300
	443,000	499,950	549,700	555,200	609,600

The over-all average selling price of the Company's primary aluminum at the end of 1955 was approximately 10% higher than at the end of the previous year. These increases became effective on principal markets in stages during the first eight months of the year and the average return on semi-fabricated aluminum products also rose.

The Company's consolidated sales in the period 1950 to 1955 have been as follows:

	Ingot and Ing	ot Products	Semi-fabrica	ted Products	All Other Products	Operating Revenues	Total
	Short Tons	5'000	Short Tons	\$'000	\$,000	\$1000	\$.000
1950	316,498	107,078	125,522	90,838	10,005	18,690	226,611
1951	323,264	113,872	154,969	121,429	14,152	34,526	283,979
1952	375,098	138,244	163,126	136,906	17,351	40,493	332,994
1953	451,819	167,839	145,960	118,638	18,922	30,289	335,688
1954	435,238	159,957	157,080	120,836	17,290	29,565	327,648
1955	511,683	207,895	169,627	145,064	18,372	40,815	412,146

More than three-fourths of the Company's shipments of Canadian aluminum in 1955 were made against long-term commitments. Perhaps the best current indication of long-term market firmness is to be found in new contractual obligations recently undertaken by customers in North America and abroad. During 1955, contracts covering the sale of substantial quantities of aluminum ingot were entered into with customers in the United States and Europe. In some instances these undertakings extend over a period of ten years.



EXPANSION PROGRAMME

Since early in 1951, the Company has been in the process of rapid expansion of its hydroelectric power and integrated aluminum producing facilities. This expansion has been concentrated mainly in the provinces of Quebec and British Columbia in Canada and on the island of Jamaica. Other development of bauxite operations has proceeded in British Guiana and in French West Africa. By the summer of 1954, the initial stage of the programme had been completed with the creation of new hydroelectric and smelter facilities in Quebec and the establishment of the new Kitimat-Kemano project in British Columbia which provided a basis for further and more economic expansion as required. In Jamaica the initial plant had been established to extract alumina from local bauxite ores and the foundation was laid for further growth.

With continuing pressure of demand, the Company announced during 1955 a further series of expansion projects which, if carried to completion in 1959 as presently planned, will increase its effective capacity in Canada to 912,000 tons of aluminum per annum, compared with 650,000 tons at the end of 1955. As provided in the plans, all of the capacity in 1959 will be integrated as to bauxite and alumina supplies, as well as to practically all the requirements of electrical energy.

In the current phase of the expansion programme in Quebec, an additional annual capacity of 22,000 tons is being constructed at the aluminum smelter at Isle Maligne, Quebec. These new facilities will enter production in July of this year and will bring the Company's total smelter capacity in Quebec to 582,000 tons.

At Kitimat the installed smelter capacity is planned to reach 330,000 tons in 1959. Of this amount, 180,000 tons are expected to be in operation by the end of 1956 as a result of smelter units with total capacity of 90,000 tons entering production successively in March, June and December. The first of these has already been started and will produce commercial grade metal shortly. A fourth generator of 150,000 h.p. capacity has started operating in the Keinano powerhouse, and another similar unit is scheduled to enter service before the end of this year. Construction plans are well advanced and sites are being prepared at Kitimat for the addition of approximately 30,000 tons of capacity in 1957, 60,000 tons in 1958, and 60,000 tons in 1959. In the latter year the installed generator capacity at Kemano would reach 1,200,000 h.p., or the equivalent of the Company's Shipshaw power plant in the Saguenay district of Quebec.

Assuming the completion of the programme as projected, the following is the estimated and anticipated capacity of the Company's smelters in Canada at the end of each of the following years:

1955 - 650,000 tons; 1956 -- 762,000 tons; 1957 -- 792,000 tons; 1958 -- 852,000 tons; 1959 -- 912,000 tons.

Because the foundation for a greatly increased production was laid at Kitimat in the initial construction, the incremental smelter and power units up to the 330,000-ton level involve relatively lower capital costs than the initial plant of 90,000 tons' capacity. The precise capacities of individual segments of the total programme at Kitimat may be adjusted in the light of engineering and technical considerations. The expansion is also so planned that the programme may be stretched out or temporarily suspended if economic conditions dictate. The present permanent population of Kitimat is 8,000, and a growth to 15,000 is expected by 1960.

As a more recent development, the Company is currently investigating the possibility of constructing a new hydroelectric station in the Saguenay-Lake St. John region of Quebec which it is estimated would add approximately 600,000 firm horsepower to the Company's system as a whole. Legislation permitting the government of the Province of Quebec to authorize Aluminum Company of Canada Ltd. to develop such additional power, has recently been passed by the Quebec legislature. Development of this additional power would support further expansion of aluminum smelting capacity in the Saguenay district. It would also assist the Company in taking care of general requirements for power in the region as well as augmenting its power supply for present aluminum capacity in the event of a future recurrence of drought conditions. Capital expenditures for this new potential development are now being estimated.

In the past few years, a major new source of bauxite and alumina has been established by the Company in Jamaica to supply the alumina requirements of the Kitimat smelter. The Jamaica alumina plant started production in 1953 on a small scale and has since reached satisfactory production at the level of 230,000 tons of alumina per year. Its capacity is now being more than doubled to 543,000 tons per year. Production at the latter rate will be attained early in 1957 when the Company's investment in Jamaica will amount to approximately \$60 million. The continuing growth of alumina requirements to keep pace with the smelter construction programme may entail plans for still further expansion of alumina facilities.

In other parts of the world several expansion projects were studied as described in the section OPERATIONS. One additional area under investigation is French West Africa

where the Company now mines bauxite on a substantial scale. Studies are being made of the feasibility of building new plant and other facilities which would be required to mine bauxite even more extensively and extract alumina at the mine. Consideration is also being given to the possibility of using these resources at two nearby power sites on the Konkouré River.

FINANCING



The creation of important new facilities has meant a heavy investment in fixed capital assets, amounting to \$554 million in the period 1951 to 1955 inclusive. Capital outlays for new plant facilities were \$71 million in 1955 compared to \$48 million in 1954 and \$129 million in 1953.

The distribution of capital expenditures in the five-year period just ended has been as follows: \$135 million for expansion and integration of faculities in Quebec; \$329 million for creation and expansion of the Kitimat project; \$39 million for bauxite and alumina expansion in Jamaica; and \$51 million for other purposes.

The implementation of the Kitimat expansion programme on an integrated basis, supplemented to provide certain additional ancillary facilities not previously included, is presently expected to call for capital expenditures of approximately \$180 million in British Columbia in the period 1956 to 1959 inclusive and a further \$55 million for related bauxite and alumina facilities. Current expansion of smelter facilities in Quebec including the new 22,000-ton smelter at Isle Maligne will require \$10 million in 1956. Expenditures on the foregoing major projects in British Columbia, Jamaica and Quebec are expected to be approximately \$95 million during 1956.

The table of "Source and Application of Funds" appearing on page 14 of this report outlines the means by which the expansion programme has been financed so far. During 1955 new financing totalled \$106 million. Redemption of debt securities and preferred shares during the year amounted to \$61 million.

On January 10th, 1955, Aluminium Limited offered to its shareholders rights to subscribe for 904,314 additional shares on the basis of one additional share for each ten shares held. Of this amount 902,312 shares were taken up for a total consideration of \$41,547,077. Employee Share Purchase and Share Option Plans added \$1.7 million.

SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS

IN MILLIONS OF CANADIAN DOLLARS

	1955	1951 to 1955 Inclusive
CASH AND MARKETABLE SECURITIES (beginning of period)	S 52	\$ 74*
SOURCE OF FUNDS:		
Net income	48	194
Straight-line depreciation	30	96
Reserve for future income taxes	18	66
Aluminium Limited shares	43	96
Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. preferred shares	30†	60
Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. abatable notes	·-	67
Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. fixed debt		189
Other fixed debt	3	24
Net increase in short-term bank loans	3	10
Other	4	13
	179	815
	\$231	\$889
APPLICATION OF FUNDS:		
New plant	\$ 71	\$554
New investments		6
Redemption of debt and preferred shares	31	68
Dividends paid on common shares	21	86
short-term bank loans and funded debt payable within one year)	_ 22	89
	145	803
CASH AND MARKETABLE SECURITIES (end of period)	86	86
	\$231	\$889

^{*}Excluding proceeds of \$50 million Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. debentures underwritten in December 1950 but issued on 3rd January 1951, included under "Sales of securities."

^{\$60} million less \$30 million applied to redemption of preferred shares.

In September 1955 Saguenay Power Company, Ltd. redeemed all its outsranding $4\frac{1}{4}C_c$ sinking fund preferred shares in the par value amount of \$3,625,900 and issued privately \$3,000,000 in 3% debentures due serially 1956 to 1965.

In November 1955 Aluminum Company of Canada, Limited, offered and sold in Canada \$60,000,000 par value of $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ cumulative redeemable sinking fund second preferred shares and redeemed its outstanding \$30,000,000 par value of $5\frac{1}{4}\%$ second preferred shares.

At the end of 1955, Aluminium Limited's shares were held by approximately 25,000 registered shareholders as compared with 20,000 at the end of 1954. Distribution of holders is currently equally divided between the U.S. and Canada with just under 1,000 shareholders resident in other countries.



INVESTMENTS

Aluminum Limited's investment in non-consolidated subsidiaries and other allied companies was increased by \$588,283 during 1955 and by the year end amounted to \$14,355,986 as indicated by the Balance Sheet. After deducting investments (\$3,600,000 at December 31st, 1955) in companies that have not yet reached the operating stage, the Company's share, over the last five years, in the earnings of the remaining enterprises has averaged in excess of 12% on investment. Receipts from these companies, in the form of dividends and interest, have represented an average return of approximately 5% during the same period.

In addition to providing income, these investments in affiliated companies (like the Company's ownership of many of its consolidated subsidiaries) have had for many years further valuable functions in promoting the growth of aluminum consumption in a score of countries and in fostering demand for primary aluminum exports from Canada. Practically all of the investments in non-consolidated and affiliated companies have been made in partnership with local capital. This practice has enabled the new enterprises thus created to benefit both from local knowledge and experience of local business methods as well as from the introduction of capital and aluminum techniques brought by the Company. In nearly all cases, managements and technical staffs are preponderantly nationals of the country where the investment is made.



GOLD COAST ALUMINUM PROJECT

The Preparatory Commission, appointed by the Governments of the Gold Coast and the United Kingdom in 1953 to study all aspects of the Volta River Project for the production of aluminum in the Gold Coast, completed its work in 1955. The Commission's reports are expected to be published shortly. This project envisages the development of the power of the Volta River to support the production of an eventual 230,000 short tons of primary aluminum per year through the treatment of locally-mined bauxite. Representatives of the two governments, The British Aluminium Company Limited and Aluminium Limited will meet shortly to discuss the Commission's reports and the possible basis for continuing collaboration in implementing the project.



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Expenditures on research and the development of new and improved techniques employed in Company operations were somewhat higher during 1955 than in the preceding year. Notable advances were made in the treatment process for Caribbean bauxites whereby a significant improvement in operating efficiency was achieved in Jamaica. More effective methods of handling waste gases from various operations were developed. Several new devices for product testing and quality control were put into service.

Increased emphasis was again placed on the Company's programme of technical assistance to customers. As an example of this programme's results, a successful new alloy for electrical purposes was developed in conjunction with a customer. New interest has likewise been stimulated for the use of aluminum in the container industry and the Company has exploited its ability to co-ordinate European and North American technical experience in this and other fields.

A more economic pre-plating treatment for aluminum and a method for continuous anodizing of wire were developed. Both of these show promising consumer openings in substitution for other materials.

DIRECTORS

At a Special General Meeting of shareholders of the Company held immediately after the 1955 Annual Meeting, the shareholders sanctioned a special by-law increasing the number of directors of the Company from 12 to 14 and authorized the Board of Directors to fill the two new offices of directors so created. At the subsequent meeting of the Board, Field Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis, K.G., and Mr. Manoel B. de Sousa Pernes, both of London, England, were elected directors of the Company.

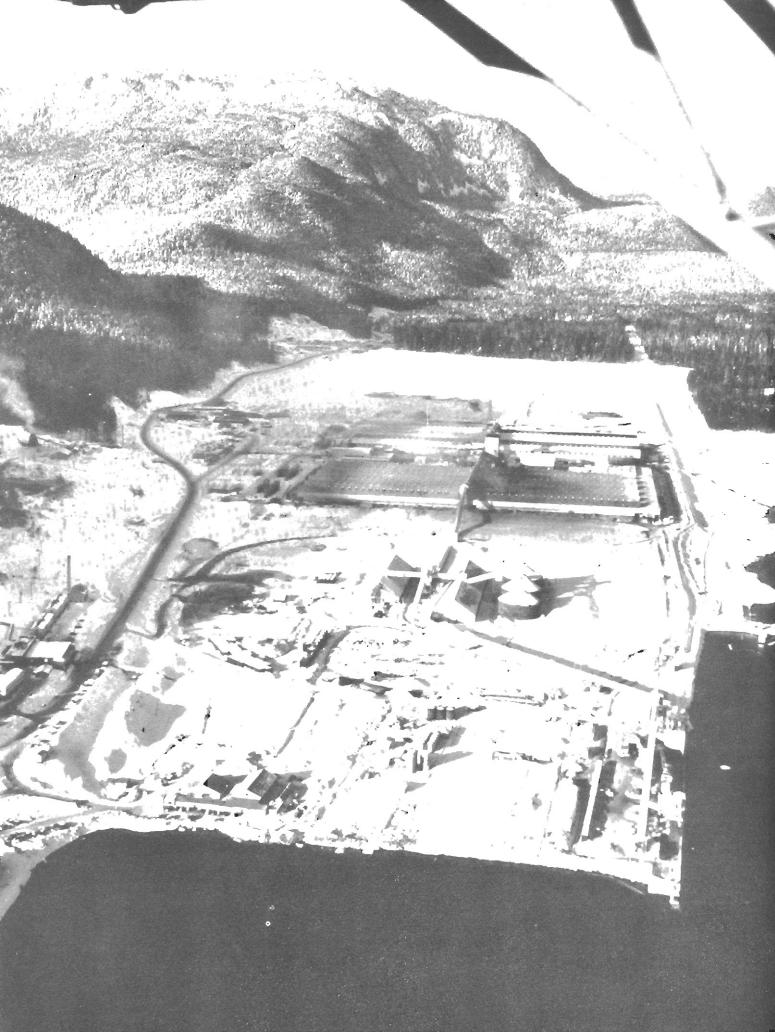
During the year more than 44,000 men and women were employed in our plants and offices in many parts of the world. Tribute is due our personnel, all of whom — directly or indirectly — had an active and often trying year in dealing with the many facets of our business at a time of rapid expansion, production cutbacks, and heavy demand for the Company's products.

Respectfully submitted,

NATHANAEL V. DAVIS,

President.

Montreal, P.Q. March 15th, 1956



KITIMAT ALUMINUM SMELTER

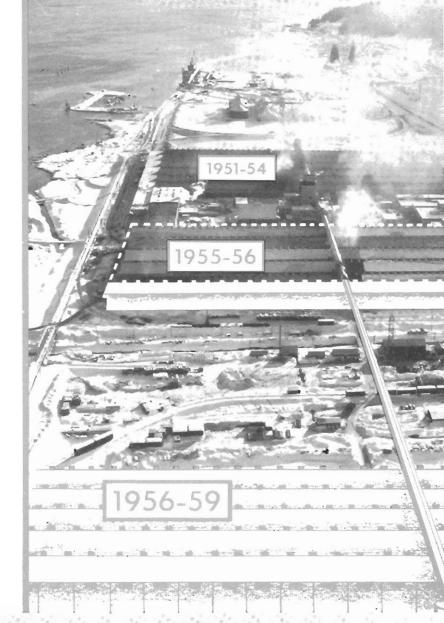
(left) In operation since August 1954, the Company's Kitimat smelter on Canada's west coast was again in 1955 in the midst of a construction programme to increase aluminum supplies for Canadian and export markets. This aerial view looks inland from the seaport to the area of expansion in the distance beyond the present smelter.

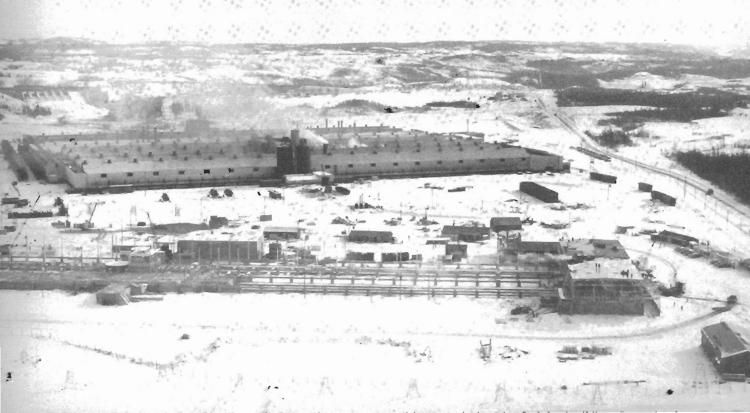
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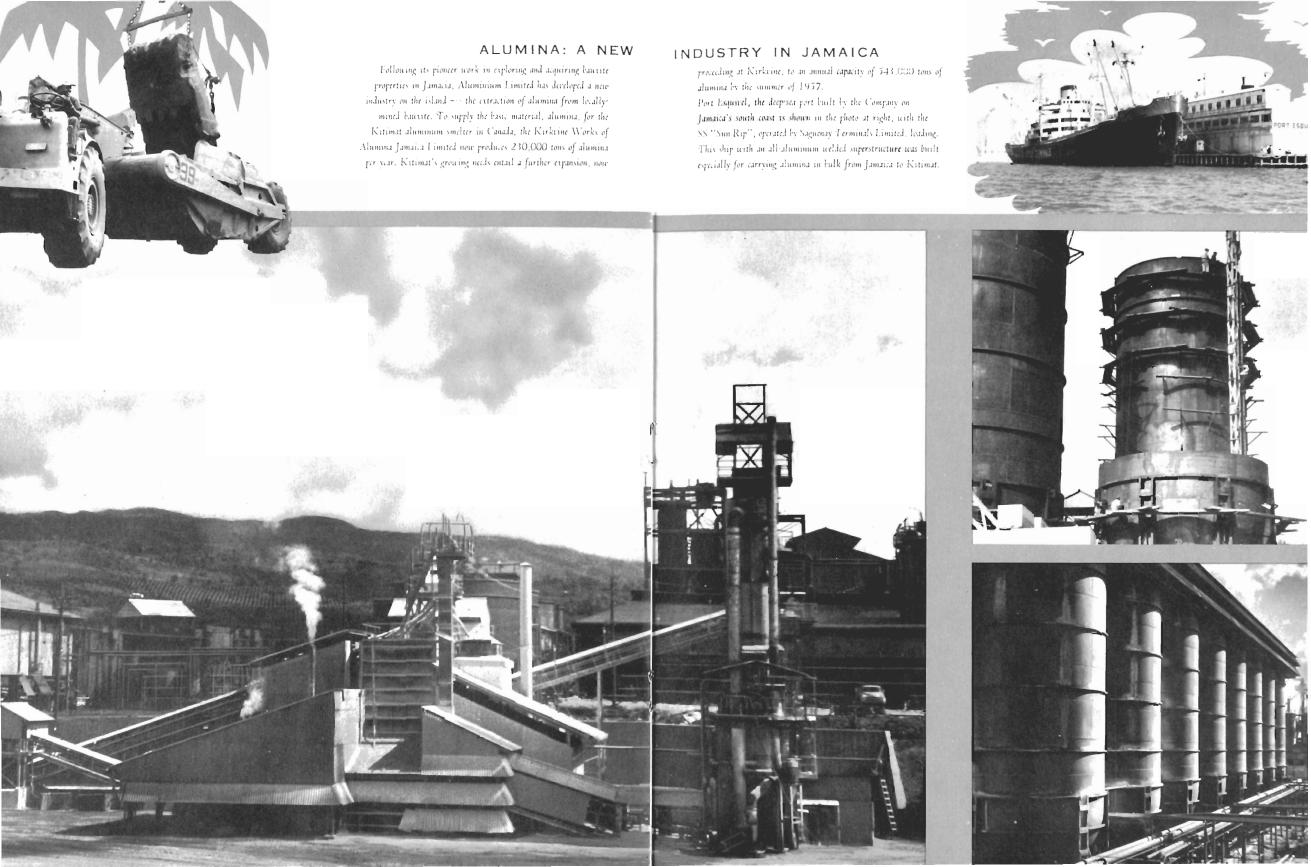
(right) The rated capacity of the first stage of the Kitimat smelter, built in the period 1951 to 1954, is 90,000 tons of primary aluminum per year. With the basis for expansion already laid, construction in 1955 and 1956 is adding another 90,000 tons of capacity. Further plans call for an additional 150,000 tons annual capacity in the next three years as indicated on the outlined sketch.

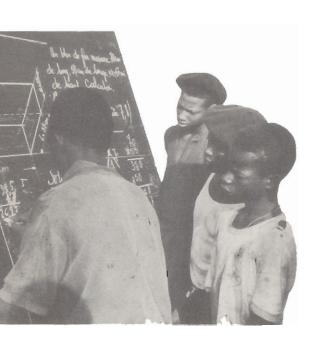
ISLE MALIGNE SMELTER EXPANSIO

(below) Located in the Saguenay River district of Quebec, this 92,000-ton capacity smelter is being expanded to provide an additional 22,000 tons of aluminum per year. The new facilities, foreground, are to enter production in the summer of 1956.







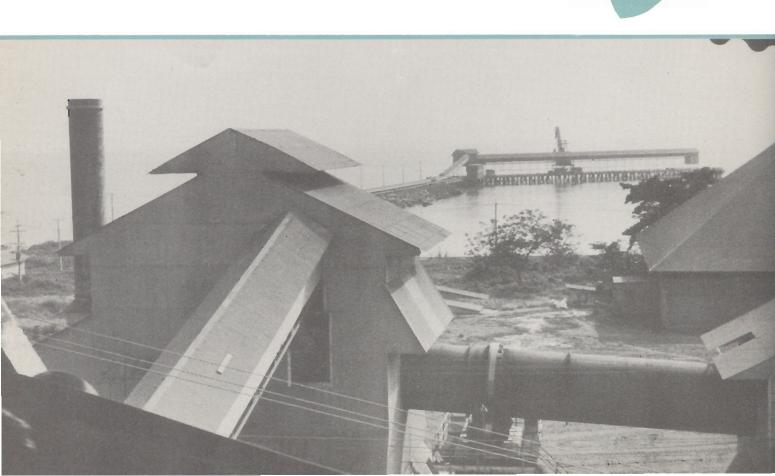






FRENCH WEST AFRILL

Banchies die Midi, a French mining subsidiary of Aluminium Limited, has been active in the Frinch Gionea region of French West Africa for more than 25 years. Construction of mining, milling and ocean-shipping facilities on the Los Islands, a few miles from the mainland indicated on map), began in 1950. By 1955, annual banchet shipments to the Company's Quebec smelters had reached 500,000 tons. Creation of this new industry in an underdeveloped region has meant extensive training of local personnel in modern technology.



COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATISTICS

(As Adjusted)

	Total		Net Income before			Number		Per Commo	n Share
Year	Assets before Reserves	Sales and Operating Revenues	Depreciation and Income Taxes	Current Income Taxes	"Cash Income"	of Common Shares(1)	Capital Stock and Surplus	Net Income	Cash Dividends
		Millions	of Canadian D	ollars		Millions		Canadian I	Dollats
1928	\$ 71	\$ 12	\$ 1	\$ 0	\$ 1	6.3	\$ 4	\$.05	\$ 0
1929	75	30	4	0	4	6.3	4	.38	0
1930	75	26	3	1	2	6.3	4	.08	0
1931	81	22	1	1	0	6.5	4	~-~.25	0
1932	81	1.3	1	0	1	6.5	4	25	0
1933	84	14	2	0	2	6.5	4	14	0
1934	83	21	2	0	2	6.5	4	06	0
1935	84	26	2	0	2	6.5	4	.02	0
1936	88	32	4	0	4	6.9	4	.26	0
1937	98	49	13	2	11	7.4	5	1.07	0
1938	144	66	20	5	15	7.4	7	1.47	0
1939	158	92	28	8	20	7.4	8	2.07	$.42\frac{1}{2}$
1940	209	82	38	22	16	7.4	9	1.47	.80
1941	324	132	53	15	38	7.4	10	1.96	1.00
1942	446	198	75	12	63	7.4	11	2.06	1.00
1943	528	290	96	14	82	7.4	11	1.55	CO. I
1944	523	259	81	11	70	7.4	12	1.48	.80
1945	480	114	26	8	18	7.4	13	1.55	.80
1946	490	111	28	10	18	7.4	14	1.61	.90
1947	514	153	38	15	23	7.4	15	2.15	1.00
1948	587	209	56	20	36	7.4	17	3.67	1.321/2
1949	612	199	57	20	37	7.4	18	3.63	1.30
1950	698	227	73	26	47(2)	7.4	22	4.67	1.721/2
1951	809	284	92	36	56 ⁽²⁾	8.2	26	4.54	1.771/2
1952	972	333	95	35	60(2)	8.2	28	4.31	2.00(3)
1953	1,124	336	96	26	70(2)	9.0	31	4.24	2.00(3)
1954	1,180	328	94	21	73(2)	9.0	33	3.87	2.00(3)
1955	1,310	412	123	26	97(2)	10.0	37	4.83	$2.15^{(3)}$

⁽¹⁾ Outstanding at end of each year, adjusted for stock dividend in 1939 and stock splits in 1948 and 1952.

⁽²⁾ Before reserve for future income taxes - see more 5 to financial statements.

⁽³⁾ Dividend payments in U.S. dollars after 5th September 1950, including U.S. \$ 75 in 1950.



CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET - ASSETS

31st December 1955

IN CANADIAN DOLLARS

	31st December 1955	31st December 1954
Current Assets:	-	
Cash	\$ 40,255,008	\$ 32,111,494
Government of Canada securities (quoted value \$45.372,944)	45,759,427	20,389,719
Receivables, less provision for doubtful accounts	64,301,161	53,487,202
Inventories of aluminum, materials and supplies (note 3)	120,749,839	100,926,187
(lower of cost or market)	27 1,065 ,435	206,914,602
Deferred receivables	4,102,116	1,969,223
Prepaid expense and deferred charges	15,863,656	14,684,177
Investments:	4 100 442	4,036,751
Subsidiaries not consolidated (note 1)	4,109,442	
Other allied companies — not more than 50% owned	10,246,544	9,730,952
	14,355,986	13,767,703
Lands, plants, riparian rights, and facilities, at cost (note 4) Less: Accumulated amortization, depreciation and	1,004,968,009	942,817,909
depletion (note 5)	357,074,447	332,274,987
	647,893,562	610,542,922
	6052 200 755	#0.47.070.637
	\$953,280,755 —————	\$847,878,627

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET - LIABILITIES

31st December 1955

IN CANADIAN DOLLARS

	31st December 1955	31st December 1954
Current Liabilities:	-	
Payables, including accrued liabilities	\$ 39,488,713 15,796,749 19,773,346 2,251,000 77,309,808	\$ 34,901,391 12,968,384 12,263,068 17,117,010 77,249,853
Debt not maturing within one year (note 6)	262,012,165	265,233,551
Debt contingent on volume of operations (note 6)	97,527,750	103,612,000
Operating reserves and deferred credits	2,785,067	2,642,843
Reserve fot future income taxes (note 5)	67,554,681	49,298,378
Preferred shares of consolidated subsidiaries (note 7)	73,584,075	47,577,375
Minority interest in consolidated subsidiaries	2,502,887	2,644,297
Capital Srock and Surplus:		
Shares without nominal or par value (note 8) 9,975,690 shares outstanding	130,021,096	86,754,803
Capital surplus	2,745,125	3,612,579
Earned surplus (note 10)	237,238,101	209,252,948
	370,004,322	299,620,330
	\$953,280,755	\$847,878,627

Signed on behalf of the Board,
NATHANAEL V. DAVIS, Director
DANA T. BARTHOLOMEW, Director

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

For the Year Ending 31st December 1955

IN CANADIAN DOLLARS

	1955	1954
Sales and Revenues:		
Sales	\$371,331,014	\$298,083,109
Operating revenues (transportation services, etc.)	40,815,203	29,564,439
Income from marketable securities	830,682	1,297,247
Income from investments	691,371	646,359
Exchange adjustment arising in consolidation (loss in 1954)	1,370,687	(207,876)
Gain on disposal of surplus fixed assets	2,468,619	1,040,100
Other income	948,577	304,904
	418,456,153	330,728,282
Costs and Expenses:		
Cost of sales	214,951,858	169,448,036
Operating expenses (transportation services, etc.)	30,690,004	21,444,734
Provision for depreciation and depletion (note 5)	30,099,298	22,716,593
Selling, general and administrative expenses	31,198,288	27,932,011
Interest on contingent and other debt not maturing within one year	13,356,283	13,505,929
Other interest	839,366	1,006,041
Financing expenses (note 9)	2,354,737	1,199,235
	323,489,834	257,252,579
Income before income taxes	94,966,319	73,475,703
Provision for current income taxes(including \$17,816,825 Canadian taxes; \$16,079,249 in 1954)	25,958,416	20,658,857
Reserve for future income taxes (note 5)	18,256,303	15,500,020
	44,214,719	36,158,877
Income after income taxes	50,751,600	37,316,826
Dividends on preferred shares of consolidated subsidiaries	2,432,748	2,266,091
Minority interest in net income of consolidated subsidiaries	124,900	80,710
•	2,557,648	2,346,801
Net income	\$ 48,193,952	\$ 34,970,025
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF SURPLUS

For the Year Ending 31st December 1955

IN CANADIAN DOLLARS

EARNED SURPLUS

Earned surplus — 31st December 1954	\$209,252,948
Net income for the year	48,193,952
	257,446,900
Aluminium Limited dividends (1954 — \$17,632,896)	21,076,253
	236,370,647
Transfer from capital surplus (net)	867,454
Earned surplus — 31st December 1955 (note 10)	\$237,238,101
CAPITAL SURPLUS	
Capital surplus — 31st December 1954	\$ 3,612,579
Transfer from earned surplus of par value of preferred shares of consolidated subsidiaries	360 494
purchased for cancellation	360,484
Restoration to earned surplus of par value of preferred shares of a consolidated subsidiary previously purchased for cancellation, the balance of the issue having been redeemed in 1955	1,227,938
Capital surplus — 31st December 1955	\$ 2,745,125

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Principles of Consolidation:

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of all subsidiaries (companies more than $50^{\circ}/_{6}$ owned) with the exception of three partially owned foreign subsidiaries, the inclusion of which would have no significant effect.

All intercompany items and transactions, including profits in inventories, have been eliminated. Intercompany profits on sales to subsidiaries not consolidated are not significant.

2. Foreign Exchange:

Accounts, other than Canadian currency accounts, included in the consolidated balance sheet are translated into Canadian dollars at rates of exchange current at 31st December 1955, except that (a) investments, fixed assets and related reserves are at rates current at dates of acquisition, and (b) funded debts are at rates current at dates of issue except that the Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. first mortgage 3½% sinking fund bonds, due 1974, payable in United States currency, are stated on a dollar for dollar basis.

3. Inventories of Aluminum, Materials and Supplies:	1955	1954
Aluminum	. \$ 47,783,994	\$ 38,073,585
Raw materials	52,642,357	45,326,240
Supplies	. 20,323,488	17,526,362
	\$ 120,749,839	\$100.926,187
	And desires 11 desirement 1 section (1)	O 849 188
4. Lands, Plants, Riparian Rights, and Facilities:	1955	1954
Land and water rights	\$ 49,774,424	\$ 47,280,558
Mineral properties, rights and development	8,235,552	8,593,646
Buildings, machinery and equipment		870,435,959
	938,885,383	926,310,163
Construction work in progress	66,082,626	16,307,746
	\$1,004,968,009	\$942,817,909
	<u> </u>	

Major expansion projects envisaged for the next few years, as referred to on page 13 of the Directors' Report, are presently expected to call for the expenditure of approximately \$95,000,000 during 1956.

5. Depreciation Policy:

Canadian Income Tax regulations permit the use of the diminishing balance method of calculating capital cost allowances and additional allowances may be claimed on property in respect of which certificates have been obtained from the Minister of Defence Production. These additional allowances (for which Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. is still eligible to the extent of some \$127 million deductible over the next few years) as well as the diminishing allowances, apply to facilities prior to completion as well as to facilities in use. Certain non-Canadian subsidiaries, too, are permitted by regulations to claim capital cost allowances that exceed straight-line depreciation.

5. Depreciation Policy - continued

The consolidated subsidiaries, while claiming tax allowances as permitted by regulation, follow the policy of providing in their accounts only for straight-line depreciation on facilities in use. Inasmuch as capital cost allowances for tax purposes in later years on existing assets will consequently fall correspondingly short of the amount of depreciation which will be recorded in the accounts for such years, reserves have been set aside for application against taxes payable in those later years. The amounts set aside each year are calculated at tax rates prevailing in that year and are thus equivalent to the reduction in each year's taxes resulting from raking capital cost allowances in excess of straight-line depreciation on facilities in operation.

Debt not maturing within one year:	1955	1954
Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd.:		
First mortgage $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ sinking fund bonds, due 1974:		
Series "A"	\$ 8,605,000	\$ 10,149,000
Series "B" (U.S. \$17,264,000)	17,264,000	19,589,000
Commutation value of contractual obligation for annual payments secured by second hyporhec — payable in Canadian currency and		
in United States currency in equal parts	8,763,486	9,125,191
31/4% Sinking fund debentures, due 1971	43,730,000	45,055,000
31/81/6 Sinking fund debentures, due 1970 (U.S. \$77,500,000)	76,264,844	81,185,156
$4\frac{1}{2}\frac{C}{C}$ Sinking fund debentures, due 1973	48,000,000	50,000,000
Redeemable notes — payable to the U.K. Government: (interest payable only if and to the extent aluminum (magnesium) production is maintained at rates specified in the respective notes during the term thereof)		
3% Notes, due 1971	13,737,500	10,990,000
3½% Note, due 1971(b)	6,243,750	4,995,000
3½% Note, due 1974(c)	4,000,000	2,000,000
3½% Note, due 1974 (magnesium)	144,711	88,000
ment	440,000	440,000
Saguenay Power Company, Ltd.:	110,000	. 10,001
First mortgage 3% sinking fund bonds, due 1971 (U.S. \$18,999,000)	18,999,000	19,595,000
3% Serial debentures, due 1956/1965	3,000,000	
Aluminium Union Limited:	2,002,000	
4% Redeemable note, due 1955 — payable to the U.K. Government		
(£4,918,540)		13,766,010
Northern Aluminium Company, Ltd.:		, ,,, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
33/8% Debentures, due 1957/1961 (£1,250,000)	5,025,000	5,025,000
$3\frac{7}{8}\%$ Debentures, due 1962/1964 (£ 750,000)	2,304,375	2,304,375
Alumina Jamaica Limited;	, , ,	, ,
4% Loan, due 1957/1958 — payable to the U.S. Government		
International Cooperation Administration (U.S. \$4,643,273)	4,785,499	4,785,829
Other debt	4,145,000	4,310,000
	265,452,165	283,402,561
Less: Bonds and debentures held by a consolidated subsidiary and debt	200/102/100	205, 102,501
of \$2,251,000 payable within one year	3,440,000	18.169.010
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$262,012,165	\$265,233,551
	5202,012,103	<u> </u>

6. Debt contingent on volume of operations:

Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd.:

Redeemable notes — payable to the U.K. Government: (principal and interest payable only if and to the extent aluminum (magnesium) production is maintained at rates specified in the respective notes during the term thereof)	1955	1954
3% Notes, due 1971	\$ 41,212,500	\$ 43,960,000
3½% Note, due 1971(b)	18,731,250	19,980,000
3½% Note, due 1974(c)	36,000,000	38,000,000
$3\frac{1}{2}$ % Note, due 1974 (magnesium)(d)	1,584,000	1,672,000
	\$ 97,527,750	\$103,612,000

The formulae for abatement of the several notes in any year are summarized below:

51/4% Sinking fund second preferred shares.....

41/2% Sinking fund second preferred shares.....

Saguenay Power Company, Ltd. 41/4% Sinking fund preferred shares

Indian Aluminium Company, Ltd. 5% Preferred shares......

		Principal amount of Note	Rate of interest	Principal and interest are abatable if production is less than	Amount of principal abatable per ton	Maximum amount of principal abatable in any year	Entire interest is abatable if production is less than			
				(metric tons)			(metric tons)			
	(a)	\$39,600,000	3%	172,500*	\$24.00	\$1,980,000	90,000			
	(a)	15,350,000	3%	197,500*	30.70	767,500	172,500			
	(b)	24,975,000	31/2%	400,000*	13.50	1,248,750	307,500			
	(c)	40,000,000	31/2/10	450,000*	40.00	2,000,000	400,000			
	(d)	1,728,711	31/2%	4,000†	33.33	88,000	1,360			
*1955 aluminum production — 551,000 metric tons. †1955 magnesium production — 3,060 metric tons.										
7.	Prefe	rred Shares of	1955	1954						
	Сип	ulative Redeema								
	Α	luminum Compa	ny of Canada, I	Ltd.:						
		4% Sinking fur	. \$ 12,254,875	\$ 12,514,675						

30,000,000

3,733,500

1,329,200

\$ 47,577,375

60,000,000

1,329,200

\$ 73,584,075

8. Capital Stock:

Under the Employees Share Purchase and Share Option Plans, approved by the shareholders in 1953, 700,000 shares were reserved for employees of the Company and its subsidiaries.

An initial offering of shares was made in 1953 under the Share Purchase Plan at a price of \$37.00 per share, being 85% of the then market price. This offering was completed in 1955 with a total of 31,547 shares fully paid and issued (3,628 shares in 1955).

Options for 187,000 shares were granted in 1953 under the Share Option Plan to 75 officers and key employees at the then market price of \$47.50 per share. As at 31st December 1955, options for 39,163 shares had been exercised (33,368 shares in 1955) with options for 3,500 shares being cancelled under the terms of the Plan. In 1955, options for a further 69,500 shares, not exercisable until after 28th April, 1956, were granted to 67 other officers and key employees at the then market price of \$93.75 per share.

8. Capital Stock -- continued

In January 1955, the Company offered to its shareholders the right to subscribe for a total of 904,314 shares on the basis of one additional share for each ten shares held; 902,312 shares were subscribed for a total consideration of \$41,547,077.

9. Financing Expenses:

Substantially all financing expenses in 1955 pertain to an issue of 902,312 shares by Aluminium Limited, a redemption of \$30,000,000 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ % preferred shares by Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd., and an issue of \$60,000,000 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % preferred shares by Aluminum Company of Canada. Ltd. The amount of \$2,354,737 charged for the year includes a premium of \$1,350,000 (and 20% tax thereon) on the above-noted redemption. No commission was recorded on the issuance of the new preferred shares, these having been sold to underwriters at par and offered to the public at a premium of $2\frac{1}{2}$ %.

10. Earned Surplus:

The surpluses of the individual non-Canadian subsidiaries forming part of the consolidated earned surplus at 31st December 1955 aggregated \$18,412,000 (\$9,926,000 in 1954).

11. Geographical Distribution of Consolidated Assets, Liabilities, etc.:

A condensed analysis of the consolidated balance sheet at 31st December 1955, according to the domicile of the constituent companies and their branches, follows:

	Canada	Other Western Hemisphere	Other British Commonwealth	All Other	Total
ASSETS		(in			
Current assets	165.2	28.5	65.5	11.9	271.1
Investments	14.1	. 1	-	. 1	14.3
Fixed assets	849.1	85.5	45.6	24.8	1005.0
Less: Depreciation, etc	(300.8)	(26.9)	(20.7)	(8.7)	(357.1)
Other assets	17.I	2.I	. 5	. 3	20.0
	744.7	89.3	90.9	28.4	953.3
LIABILITIES		*			
Current liabilities	43.7	8.6	19.6	5.4	77.3
Funded debt	346.6	4.8	8.I		359.5
Preferred shares	72.3	_	1.3	_	73.6
Other liabilities	3.5	. 5	. 8	. 5	5.3
Reserve for future income taxes	66.2	. 9	. 5		67.6
	532.3	14.8	30.3	5.9	583.3
Common shareholders' equity	212.4	74.5	60.6	22.5	370.0

12. Executive Salaries, etc. (parent and consolidated subsidiaries):

The following amounts have been charged to income in 1955: executive salaries \$2,205,193; legal fees \$196,121; directors' fees \$19,233.

AUDITORS' REPORT

PRICE WATERHOUSE & GO.

215 ST. JAMES STREET WEST

MONTREAL 1

14th March 1956

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF ALUMINIUM LIMITED

We have examined the consolidated balance sheet of Aluminium Limited and consolidated subsidiaries as at 31st December 1955 and the related consolidated statements of income and surplus for the year then ended and have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion and according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the companies, the accompanying consolidated balance sheet and related consolidated statements of income and surplus, supplemented by the notes thereto, are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the combined state of affairs of Aluminium Limited and consolidated subsidiaries as at 31st December 1955 and the results of their combined operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Pursuant to section 118 of the Companies Act, we report that the interest of Aluminium Limited in the profits for the year of the non-consolidated subsidiaries exceeded dividends from such subsidiaries included in consolidated income.

Chartered Accountants

Pure Waterhouse , bo

ALUMINIUM LIMITED

Head Office — 1155 Metcalfe Street Montreal, Canada Mail: P.O. Box 6090



TRANSFER AGENTS

National Trust Company Limited Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver

Mellon National Bank and Trust Company Pittsburgh

The National City Bank of New York New York City

Morgan, Grenfell & Co. Limited London, England

REGISTRARS

The Royal Trust Company Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, London, Eng.

> Fidelity Trust Company Pittsburgh

> > The Hanover Bank New York City



SUBSIDIARY OPERATING COMPANIES

(Consolidated)

Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd.— Canada
Alma & Jonquieres Railway Company (The) — Canada
Alumina Jamaica Limited — Jamaica
Aluminio Do Brasil, S.A. — Brazil
Aluminio De Venezuela, S.A. — Venezuela
Aluminium Company of South Africa (Piy.) Ltd. — South Africa
Aluminiumwerke, A. G. Rorschach — Switzerland
Aluminiumwerke Goettingen G.m.b.H. — Germany
Aluminiumwerke Nuernberg G.m.b.H. — Germany
Aluminium Goods Limited — Canada
Aluminium Meridional — France
Aktieselskapet Kinservik — Norway
Baunites du Midi — France
Chaguaramas Terminals Limited — Trinidad
Demerara Baunite Company, Ltd. — British Guiana

Indian Aluminium Company, Ltd.— India
Magnesium Company of Canada, Ltd.— Canada
Newfoundland Fluorspar Limited — Canada
Northern Aluminium Company, Ltd.— Great Britain
Roberval and Saguenay Railway Company (The) — Canada
Saguenay Terminals Limited — Canada
Saguenay Electric Company — Canada
Saguenay-Kitimat Company — Canada
Saguenay-Power Company, Ltd.— Canada
Saguenay Transmission Company, Ltd.— Canada
Societa Dell'Alluminio Italiano — Italy
Southeast Asia Bauxifes Limited — Singapore
Sprostons, Limited — British Guiana
Sprostons, Limited — British Guiana

* INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTING COMPANIES

ALUMINIUM UNION LIMITED ALUMINIUM LIMITED SALES, INC.

L'Aluminium Commercial S.A. International Aluminium Company, Ltd.

ELETRO-QUIMICA BRASILEIRA S.A.— BRAZIL



■ CORRESPONDENTS

of the Aluminium Limited Group of Companies

ALUMINIUM LIMITED, INCORPORATED Boston and New York correspondent

Aluminium (Canada) Limited London correspondent ALUMINIUM LIMITED (CANADA) S. A. Geneva correspondent

Other Subsidiary and

ALLIED OPERATING COMPANIES

(Not Consolidated)

Aluminio Iberico, S.A. Spain
Aluminio Industriai. Menicano, S.A. Menico
Australian Aluminium Company Proprietary Lid.: — Australia
Dansk Aluminium Industri (A.S) — Denmark
Det Norske Nitridaktieselskap — Norway
Elaboracion General de Aluminio y Metales, S.A. - Uruguay
Nippon Light Metal Company, Ltd. — Japan

Nederi andsche Aluminium Maatschappij (N.V.) - Holland Nordisk Aluminiumindustri (A.S.) - Norway Norsk Aluminium Company (A.S.) - Norway Plantation Bauxite Company, Lid. - British Guiana Svenska Aluminiumkompaniet (AB) - Sweden Toyo Aluminium K.K. - Japan West African Aluminium Limited - Gold Coast

NOTE: The companies listed on the previous page are the principal consolidated operating subsidiaries of Aluminium Limited; the operating companies on this page are the principal ones carried on the books as investments.



