

Some interesting facts about Minnova

- "Minnova" is derived by combining the words mining and innovation
- Minnova Winston Lake Division mine is the site of one of the richest zinc deposits in North America
- Ore reserves are estimated to be 3,077,000 tonnes, and the mine expects production to last 10 years before reserves run out. Of course, there are concerted efforts to continually find and develop other

- reserves on the property
- The mine has a total of 72 hectares, including the tailings area. The tailings area is where the waste crushed rock is stored
- Through the hard work of contractors and employees, development and production of the mine was completed on schedule and within budget.
- That budget amounted to \$72-million before production was at 100 per cent.

- Mining in the area has been on-going for many decades, but Minnova began construction in the fall of 1985. The exploration shaft was collared in Feb. 1984.

- The shaft is 741 meters deep. Development is complete on the 615 m level, 80 per cent complete on the 585 m level, and 50 per cent complete on the 565 m level

- Despite what many may think, the ore body is not exactly a big blob of copper and zinc. Concentrated reserves are found in an "ore body" which varies between 2 and 15 meters in thickness. It slopes at 50 degrees, which is quite steep.

- Rather than follow that small body, miners drill holes into designated areas.

The holes are then filled with explosives, which are detonated. The resulting explosion breaks up the rock.

It is then carried to holes that lead to the bottom of the mine. The chunks of ore are dropped into the holes and fall into crushers.

The crushers break the rock into smaller pieces to make it easier to bring to surface.

When it does reach the surface, it is subjected to more crushing until it is essentially a powder.

That powder is then transferred to the mill where the zinc and copper are chemically separated from the waste rock.

The collected concentrate is then loaded on trucks and brought to the transfer facility in Schreiber and loaded onto rail cars.

From there, it is delivered to the smelter for further processing and purifying.

- Minnovas is expected to employ approximately 145 people by the end of August.

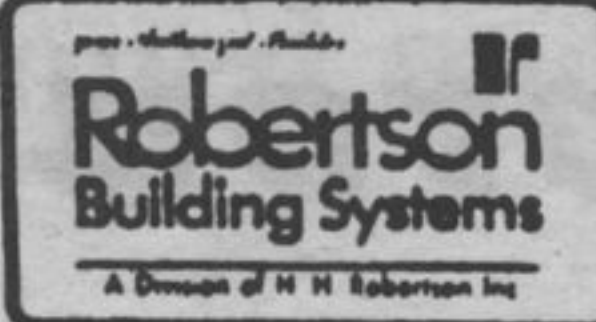

The employees live in the surrounding towns and directly contribute to the economic base, as well as the cultural and social richness that makes this area unique.

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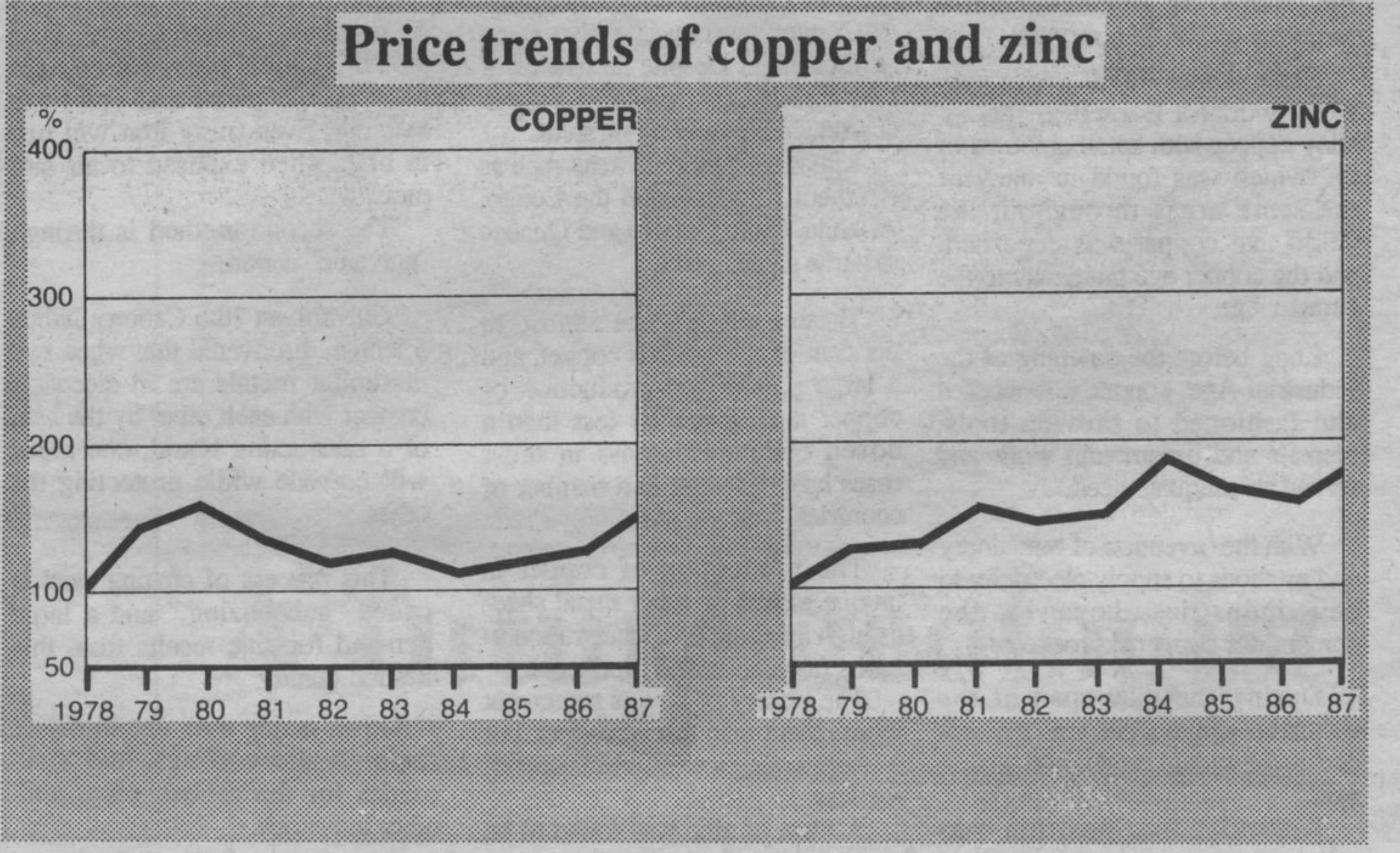
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