

Oil and gas, natural and unnatural, will continue to spin Canada's wheels for some time to come, but as the prices of the limited fossil fuels go up, conservation and alternative sources of fuel will be used more and more.

Canada, a country colder than most, is bulging with unrealized kilowatts and BTUs: it has trees, wind, water and sunlight; and though these may seem more like ingredients for a poem than for a factory, there are industries that run by the first, an island sometimes heated by the second and scores of happy homes that are made comfortable by the last.

In this issue of canada today/d'aujourd'hui we report on nontraditional energy in Canada, kinetic and potential.

## The Government's Policy on Alternate Energy

In 1973, when oil and natural gas were cheap, Canada seemed to have an abundance. Both are now expensive, and Canada's energy needs have been growing faster than its resources. The federal government will spend \$380 million in the next five years to develop other promising sources of renewable energy and energy conservation. Included are water-pump windmills on Cape Breton Island, solar water heaters in a Montreal photo processing plant, a garbage-burning incinerator on Prince Edward Island and a new cementmaking process in Mississauga, Ontario.

It is hoped that Canada will have an unsubsi-

dized solar industry requiring 15,400 man-years by 1984 and that solar sales will total between \$400 and \$800 million annually by 1990. The plan includes federal purchases, incentives to manufacturers, building design awards and funding for research.

The government also plans to have seven per cent of the nation's energy needs supplied by converting biomass, mostly wood wastes—an effort that would create jobs requiring 24,000 man-years in and out of the forests. The forest industry would supply all of its own energy needs and produce surplus electricity to sell.