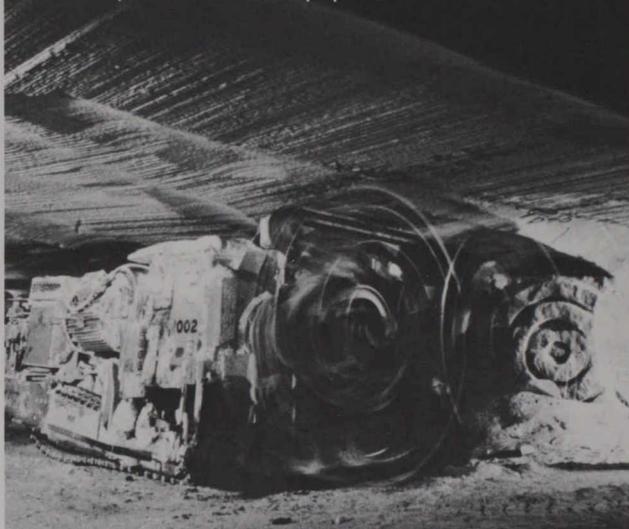
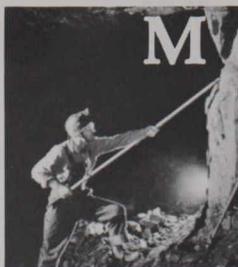


*(Below) More than a half-mile underground, a powerful continuous mining machine backs off for a new bite of potash ore in one of the two mines of International Minerals & Chemical Corporation, at Esterhazy, Saskatchewan. Thirteen of these machines work in the mine, which supplies more than 10 per cent of the world's potash, a vital fertilizer material. The continuous miners are powered by 4,160 volts, almost 10 times more than has been used before on similar equipment.*



## Mining



MUCH OF THE WEALTH of the North American Continent lies buried in Canada—north of the 55th parallel and south of the North Pole.

There are over 3 million square miles, few people, and many resources: oil, coal, nickel, copper, iron, zinc, natural gas, asbestos, lead, silver, gold, uranium, potash, molybdenum, sulphur, perhaps a third of the fresh water in the world, 12,000 buffalo, endless forests of spruce and pine, endless stretches of boggy muskeg, and the best lake trout fishing in the world.

There are also the separate but important oil fields which lie off the Canadian coast—oil and gas permits have been issued covering 2 million square miles, about half as large as Canada's

above-water area. The permits extend more than four hundred miles off the coasts and in water depths down to 3,500 meters.

Canada is quite literally a land of opportunities; Canadians are concerned over their variety and their contradictory nature.

The heart of the land is the Canadian shield, the hard rock country surrounding Hudson Bay, 600 million years old, possibly the first solid land to emerge from the primeval seas. The shield is not particularly hospitable. It is rock with a thin layer of soil and it stretches from the edge of the Arctic Ocean to the U.S. border. It includes much of Ontario and Quebec, and part of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the Northwest Territories. Roughly half of it is locked in permafrost, but it has Canada's largest store of minerals—nickel, copper, silver, gold, uranium, zinc, and asbestos.

West of the Shield are the Interior Plains—a