

will reach 180 million barrels (25 million metric tons) by 1985.

Abundant deposits of natural gas are found in many areas of Alberta. Total remaining recoverable reserves are estimated at 52 trillion cubic feet (Tcf), with ultimate recoverable reserves estimated at some 110 Tcf. Daily production is now about 5.8 billion cubic feet. Of this total, 20 per cent is consumed in Alberta, 42 per cent shipped to other Canadian provinces and 38 per cent exported to the United States.

Agriculture

Land is another of Alberta's important natural resources. Over 20 million hectares (50 million acres) are used in crop and livestock production with approximately one-half classified as cultivated. It is estimated that another 9 million hectares (22 million acres) could be added to farmland inventory.

With this much prime agricultural land, it is not surprising that Alberta has developed a very productive agricultural economy, and the province produces 20 per cent of the total Canadian agricultural output. Export marketing of Alberta's agricultural products is of major importance because of the province's relatively small population.

To meet the challenges of world markets, Alberta farmers have been quick to diversify production. Rapeseed, for example, which was virtually unknown in Alberta 20 years ago, is now produced in excess of 20 million bushels.

Alberta-produced wheat, which is sold through the federal Canadian Wheat Board to more than 40 countries, is of the highest quality. Over 2 million hectares (5 million acres) are devoted to wheat production, with total yield exceeding 183 million bushels. Three-quarters of this is exported.

Several thousand head of dairy and beef cattle, as well as several million dollars worth of semen, have been sold in many parts of the world by Alberta cattle producers. Alberta-produced honey is rated among the best in the world, averaging 9 million kilograms (2 million pounds) each year, or 40 per cent of annual Canadian production.

Alberta maintains the largest livestock population of Canada's western provinces, accounting for 48 per cent of cattle and calves, 46 per cent of the hogs and 55 per cent of sheep and lambs.

Forests cover 60 per cent of the pro-

Stamps honour two provinces

Canada Post recently issued two stamps commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the entry into Confederation of Alberta and Saskatchewan.



The two 17-cent stamps illustrate the agricultural wealth of these two provinces. The Alberta stamp depicts a small town as well as strip-farming, with a background of foothills and mountains. The Saskatchewan stamp shows grain elevators beside a railway track and surrounded by golden wheat fields.



Both stamps are reproduction of aerial photography done by George Hunter. The typographic design is by Chris Yaneff Limited of Toronto.

vince, a proportion that has changed little since 1869, when the Hudson's Bay Company territories were acquired by the government of Canada.

The forests of Alberta contain a net merchantable volume of timber totalling 1,700 million cubic metres (about 57,000 cubic feet) permitting an allowable annual cut of 28 million cubic metres (933 cubic feet). Because actual harvesting now totals only 4 million cubic metres (133 cubic feet) annually, a potential increase in harvesting of almost five times current levels is possible while still

maintaining the net volume of timber in the forests.

Culture

Alberta, a multicultural province, offers a large number of cultural activities. Diverse ethnic groups have brought their own traditions with them and are encouraged to maintain and develop their cultural heritage.

The province has an official policy of multiculturalism and all ethnic groups in Alberta can receive support for cultural activities. The Alberta government has generous programs to support the visual, performing and literary arts as well as museums and historic sites. The two major museums are the Glenbow Institute of Calgary and the Provincial Museum in Edmonton.

Alberta's cultural agencies and groups have also benefited in recent years from federal government support, through such agencies as the Canada Council.

Recreation and tourism

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Wildlife provides funding and professional guidance to local governments, private organizations and recreation associations. It encourages participation in outdoor activities and an appreciation of nature. By supporting sports and fitness it helps to improve the calibre of athletes and to encourage wider public participation in sports.

Alberta was the first province to establish provincial parks in urban areas. Fish Creek Park in Calgary and Capital City Park in Edmonton are designed to give city residents easy access to recreational and park facilities. In addition, provincial parks and wilderness sites have been set aside to preserve natural areas for future generations.

Alberta is a logical destination for tourists because of its natural endowments. They include the world-famous Banff and Jasper National Parks, set in the Canadian Rockies, and an extensive system of provincial parks. In addition, such annual events as the Calgary Stampede and Edmonton's Klondike Days attract many visitors each summer.

Alberta's travel industry generated an estimated \$1 billion in revenue during 1979. With an average annual increase of 13 per cent from 1971 to 1979, the industry has experienced healthy growth and is increasingly important to the economy.