

new finds, exports too can be expected to decline since the relatively small remaining reserves will be required to meet domestic requirements. Some promising discoveries have been made in the Canadian Arctic and off our East Coast but they are not yet adequate to justify production.

As to the oil sands of Alberta, estimates of the oil in place are indeed of a significant quantity rivalling the resources of the Middle East. However, a number of technological problems remain to be overcome before production of the major part of these resources becomes economically feasible. There are also a number of factors which the authorities in Canada would have to take into account before deciding whether to proceed with a massive development such as has been suggested in some quarters -- disturbance of the natural environment, availability of labour and machinery and the effects on the Canadian economy as a whole of the enormous investment that would be required in order to produce large quantities of oil. In any event it is unlikely that any significant volume of oil for export will be available from this source for quite some time. We are satisfied, however, that we, by developing the tar sands, will be able at least to reduce what would otherwise be a higher Canadian