



An aerial view of a potash mine at Esterhazy, Saskatchewan.

chewan, is a major centre for gold, silver, copper, zinc and other metals.

The discovery of uranium in the Beaverlodge area north of Lake Athabasca, which propelled Saskatchewan into the position of leading Canadian producer of uranium ore, was one of the most important post-war strikes. Between 1970 and 1980 the demand for uranium has increased and has provided a new impetus to mining and prospecting for this metal in the northern part of the province.

In the Forties, Saskatchewan also steadily increased its production of non-metallic minerals. The only known deposit of natural sodium sulphate in Canada is in Saskatchewan. The kraft, detergent and glass industries serve an expand-

ing market and draw extensively on these reserves, estimated at more than 50 million tons. With eight plants in operation, production in 1976 reached more than 459,551 tons, valued at \$19 million.

Of all the minerals mined in Saskatchewan, potash is the most important. The province has reserves estimated at more than 70 billion tons — enough to fertilize all the arable land on the globe for the next 500 years.

The deposits of potash lie in an arc across the inhabited area of the province, at depths varying from 900 metres (3,000 feet) near Saskatoon to 2,700 metres (9,300 feet) near the American border.

Tourism and recreation

Saskatchewan conjures up different visions for vacationers, anglers, campers and outdoor enthusiasts. From the Bad Lands in the southeast, or the Cypress Hills 900 metres (3,000 feet) above sea level in the southwest, to the wheatfields or the Precambrian region of lakes and forests in the north, visitors are provided with a variety of countryside.

The province has more than 300 campgrounds, 17 provincial parks and 91 regional parks, as well as Prince Albert National Park which welcomes thousands of vacationers every year. Most parks have facilities for camping, nature walks, swimming, canoeing, golf, tennis and horseback riding; there are also playgrounds for children. Winter is the season for skiing in the magnificent valleys, for hockey on indoor and outdoor rinks, curling, skidoing, winter carnivals and bowling.

Those interested in history are not forgotten either, as Saskatchewan has na-

Important dates

1690 — Henry Kelsey, was the first white man to reach the Prairies and Saskatchewan.

1733-1734 — La Vérendrye and his sons were the first to reach the prairies by way of the Great Lakes.

1753 — Chevalier de la Corne built Fort St. Louis south of the fork in the Saskatchewan River and there sowed the first grain to grow in the province.

1774 — Samuel Hearne started the first settlement in Saskatchewan at Cumberland House.

1775-1776 — Thomas Frobisher explored the Churchill River.

1800 — Peter Fidler explored the South Saskatchewan River and founded Chesterfield House.

1873 — First provisional government of the Northwest Territories was appointed by the Dominion Government.

1882 — The Canadian Pacific Railway crossed the plains; Regina became the seat of government of the Northwest Territories and the headquarters of the North West Mounted Police; the town of Saskatoon was created by the Temperance Colonization Company.

1885 — Under the leadership of Louis Riel, the Métis rebelled in northern Saskatchewan. Riel was defeated by Middleton at the battle of Batoche and later executed in Regina.

1876-1877 — Grain was first shipped from the prairies to Britain.

1888 — The Northwest Territories elected their first Legislative Assembly in Regina.

1905 — Saskatchewan became a province of Canada with its capital Regina.



The prairie lily, the province floral emblem

tional and provincial historic sites commemorating the settling of the West and recalling the history of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. There are also museums and art galleries which illustrate Saskatchewan's local and art history.

Twelve per cent of the province is covered by lakes and river systems, and sport fishing has acquired international fame. The angler may try his luck with pike, pickerel, cutthroat trout, Arctic char, goldeye and many other lesser known varieties of fish.