

Q. "Are only oil and gas found in abundance in the Arctic Ocean?"

"We should point out that far from all the mineral resources found on the shelves can be of practical interest. The mining of many of them might be so complex that it would not be feasible economically. For this reason, the greatest interest, because of the ease in mining them, is in placer deposits of metals and diamonds, which are mined on the continental shelves of many countries. How promising the Arctic Ocean is in this respect will be shown by further research.

In deep-water sections of oceans most attention now centres on iron-manganese nodules and polymetallic sulfide ores. Finds of nodules in the Arctic Ocean are rare and we can hardly count on large quantities of them, but large quantities of polymetallic ores here are altogether possible."

Q. "What determines the kinds of deposits present in the ocean?"

"There are two theories. Some scientists assert that there is no universal model for their existence that each ocean has its own individual geologic history. Others feel that the diversity of the oceans and, consequently, the presence of one type of mineral or another, is due to the different stages in their development. The Pacific Ocean is the "granddaddy" of all the oceans: it is hundreds of millions of years old. It is distinguished by a high degree of tectonic activity and intensive magnetism, leading scientists to conclude that there are numerous ore shows here. The Indian and the Atlantic oceans occupy an intermediate position. Here, ore genesis is less pronounced than in the Pacific Ocean. On the other hand,