THE EVENING JOURNAL, ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO MONDAY, DECEMBER 291919

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structon gang, boring for water, struck a heavy pocket of gas at a depth of 1,300 feet. A little later in he same year, gas was also discovered at Cassils, 6 miles further west, but while this well soon choked, that at Alderson continued to flow for many years. In 1890, Medicine Hat, then but a

The first discovery of natural gas

in the Province of Alberta of which

we have record, took place in May, 1884, at Alderson, a station on the

main line of the C.P.R., 35 miles west of Medicine Hat. The railway con-

small town, sank a well and found a small supply at 700 feet; four years later another attempt was made, and history tells how at the eleventh hour, with money all spent—facing bankruptcy—and despai: and gloom in the hearts of the mayor and city council, a sensational flow was un-covered at a depth of twelve to thirteen hundred feet. The cheap, ap-parently unlimited fuel supply, both for commercial and domestic purposes, is largely accountable for that city's growth and present prosperous

There are several known gas fields In the Province of Alberta, but as yet only two have been utilized for commercial purposes to any considerable extent, namely, the Medicine Hat and Bow Island Fields. Bow Island lies on the railway line about half way between Mediicne Hat and Lethbridge, 180 miles south-east of Calgary.

In 1912 the supply was piped into the city of Calgary, as well as dis-tributed en route to the city of Lethbridge, Macleod and other towns. where it is used for both domestic and commercial purposes. In the neighborhood of Pellican

Rapids, Athabasca River, gas springs were known at least a century ago and travellers going up and down the river, into the Peace River Country have cooked their meals there. Further well-known gas reserves are the Foremost Field, south of Bow Island,

Gas Well at Medicine Hat, the Barnwell Field, midway between Bow Island and Lethbridge and the Viking Field, 83 miles east of Edmon-Alberta.

ndications are that there is an imton, and were it not for the difficulty nense gas field remaining yet to be of obtaining adequate piping, it is tapped, the exact location, size and probable that this supply would have probable capacity of which can only been utilized two or three years ago be proven by testing. to furnish light, heat and power to According to the report of the

Alberta's capital. Canadian Bureau of Mines, in 1915. there was produced 4,378,947,000 Prospecting is now going on in the Monarch Field, 40 miles southwest ubic feet valued at \$1,037,919, which of Calgary, and at the Okotoks Field. s equivalent to 23.7c. per thousand 27 miles south. Along the foot-hills of the Rocky Mountains, in the cubic feet-the heat that could be btained from upwards of two hunvicinity of the apex of a well defidred thousand tons of coal.

The Natural Gases of Alberta are nite anticline similar to that one in known as "wet" and "dry." the Okotoks Field, there are many former is a profitable source of gas pronounced gas seepages, and it line, and already a considerable amount of that fluid has been proseems probable that as in the former field, which had also a gas seepage, it will be a commercial producer. duced, with a probable greatly in-The Imperial Oil Co. has comcreased production in the near fu-

menced prospecting for petroleum ture. The Medicine Hat and Bow along the last mentioned anticline. Island Fields are "dry," but there is and it is stated, intends to carry vino reason to conclude that much of gorous prospecting from the Inter-national Boundary northwards to Hudson Hope on the Peace River. Helium, a pon-combustible gas

Hudson Hope on the Peace River. Hellium, a non-combustible gas, The production of both petrolenim and natural gas seems favorable. This invaluable for balloons, has been excompany also proposes further pros- tracted in considerable quantity from pecting at other parts away from the the Bow Island gas at Calsary, and

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PAGE THREE

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