

production was commenced a few months ago. About 200 miles to the southwest interesting copper deposits are being explored by Granduc Mines Limited.

Next is the disclosure of huge quantities of natural gas in the Peace River section, in the vicinity of Fort St. John. Reserves have been placed at two trillion cubic feet and I understand there is hope of disclosing much larger quantities. However, much depends upon the finding of market outlets. The intention has been to build a pipe line to the Vancouver area, but this would not have been economic without access to the northwestern United States market, and application to enter this market was recently turned down by the Federal Power Commission in Washington.

Arising from the oil developments in Alberta is the construction of the Trans Mountain oil pipe line from Edmonton to the Vancouver area which was completed last October at the cost of \$97,000,000 and having a capacity of 120,000 barrels daily.

Last is the expansion programme of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited whose Sullivan mine at Kimberley is one of the largest sources of lead and zinc in the world. The programme includes a \$30,000,000 hydro-electric power plant on Pend d'Oreille River; a \$9,000,000 ammonium phosphate fertilizer plant which is now in production at Kimberley; a \$3,200,000 addition to the zinc refinery; and a \$15,000,000 expenditure to reconstruct the lead smelter.

Oil and Gas Highlight Changes in Prairies

I imagine most of you are familiar with the changes in Alberta. The "Texas of Canada", we called it for a time; at least until we learned that some Americans were referring to Texas as the "Alberta of the United States". Until the discovery of the Leduc oilfield about 18 miles southwest of Edmonton early in 1947 we were very discouraged indeed in regard to our crude petroleum outlook. Our economy was expanding rapidly and yet our production of crude oil was dwindling. In contrast, we are now producing at a rate in excess of 260,000 barrels daily and from the viewpoint of reserves are capable of producing close to three times that rate.

Alberta's natural gas reserves are enormous, some recent estimates being as high as 13.4 trillion cubic feet. As and when market outlets become available still greater quantities are likely to be disclosed.

The 1765-mile Interprovincial pipe line from Edmonton to Sarnia in Ontario provides the main outlet for the oil, and the proposed Trans-Canada pipe line from the Prairies to Ontario and Montreal will provide the main outlet for the natural gas. This line will have a length of 2250 miles and will be the longest in the world.

Alberta's mineral production reached a value of \$246,000,000 in 1953, more than four times that of 1946.

The post-war changes in Saskatchewan are mainly a smaller version of those in Alberta, but in addition Saskatchewan is moving rapidly to the forefront as a