

in the world output of hydro-electric power, pulp, aluminum, gold and zinc, and third in the production of silver, sawn lumber, and oats. In our Northland -- the great areas of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon -- we have great frontiers of natural resources which have not yet been fully explored and scarcely touched.

Agriculture

To be more specific: as in the United States, Canada's agriculture has made great strides in mechanization and the treatment of the soil. Blessed with good weather, we harvested last year over 1½ billion bushels of grain, the largest crop in our history. In wheat alone our output is equivalent to more than one half that of the United States; enough to provide bread as well as cake for almost 200 million people on the basis of Canadian consumption standards. ...

Fishing

As to fishing, this has become in North America almost a billion dollar industry. Canada's share is continuously increasing, comprising now about one quarter of the total. Subject to our mutual ability to overcome marketing and production problems, tremendous possibilities for further growth appear to be ahead. For the world's greatest stock of fish is off our east and west coasts - as another of our panel members, Mr. Ralph P. Bell, will explain.

Forestry

Our forests are one of Canada's most important basic sources of wealth, providing Canadians as well as many other friendly nations with a multitude of essential products - all the way from materials for shelter against the elements to the newsprint for your daily paper. Our productive forest area about equals that of the United States. This means about 34 acres of forest land to every Canadian, against just over 3 to every American. With world demand for wood products rising almost continuously, Canadians are very conscious of the need to use these resources wisely and to assure their existence in perpetuity. Therefore a great deal of effort is devoted in Canada to protecting, conserving and making most effective use of our forest resources.

Let me tell you about one innovation that may have far-reaching effects on industry in North America, and possibly the world over. Our Canadian Pulp and Paper Research Institute, building upon some 25 years of research, has just come up with a revolutionary development - striking improvements in the processes of making chemical pulps. These changes may be used to reduce wood consumption in some cases up to 50 per cent. Moreover, we will now be able to use more completely several tree species which are in abundant supply and which have hitherto been largely wasted. Think what this might mean to the pulp and paper industry of the United States, which turned into chemical pulp last year a quantity of wood over 600 times the size of Madison Square Garden. Here is a new challenge to both American and Canadian industry to produce better and cheaper commodities while at the same time preserving for future generations one of their most precious heritages: the forest resources.