

CHAPTER 12.

THE FUTURE OF THE INDUSTRY IN CANADA

The zeal which has brought the keenest minds of modern science to bear upon the conservation of the world's precious and dwindling store of petroleum, to obtain from it the maximum benefits for mankind, and has secured from the ablest administrators in modern industry such perfection of manufacturing and distributing processes, is exhibited in no less degree in the persistent and unwearying search for new sources of supply.

The possible exhaustion of petroleum, coal, and many other mineral resources is generally conceded. The question of time is largely a matter of speculation, based chiefly upon possibilities of discovery of new fields or deposits or of drilling to much greater depths. The earlier the depletion of supplies outside of Canada, the more important would become any resources that may be discovered or developed in this country.

Undoubtedly the problem of increasing the production, which has stared oil producers and consumers in the face for several years, has had much to do with the efficiency of the methods adopted for conserving and utilizing to the utmost extent commercially all of the constituents of crude petroleum. Ever since