

A view of the University of Calgary where the Olympic Village will be located

was initially established as a fort by a contingent of North West Mounted Police in 1875.

For almost a decade after its establishment, Calgary remained just what it was, a police fort and a minor trading post. By 1883, there were only 500 residents in Calgary. However, the arrival of the first Canadian Pacific Railway train from the east the following year started an influx of settlers to the area. They came from eastern Canada, the United States and Europe.

The Dominion government, at that time, established a system of land grants to settlers which permitted them to lease up to 100,000 acres *per* rancher at a rental of one cent an acre a year. The lush grazing encouraged owners of tremendous herds to move north from the over-grazed United States ranges. As a result a great number of very large ranches were developed and Calgary quickly became one of the largest centres of cattle marketing in the country. Subsequently, meat-packing became a major industry.

## **Continued growth**

Throughout the years Calgary has continued to grow and now has a population of 600,000 with this expected to exceed one million by 1988. The most rapid period of growth was between the years 1957 and 1967; during those years the city's population increased by more than 1,000 a month.

In 1914 oil was discovered in the Turner Valley area, just 30 miles south of Calgary and in 1947-48 the famous Leduc Field near Edmonton came into production. It was Leduc and then subsequent oil discoveries that have been in large measure responsible for Calgary's tremendous growth both in population and in industry.

The discovery of oil and gas has made possible such allied industries as oil refineries, sulphur production, pipe manufacturing, petro-chemical processing, synthetic rubber, and tracked vehicles. The city is headquarters for more than 500 oil and gas firms.

Calgary also offers excellent cultural facilities including the Allied Arts Centre, Glenbow Museum, Philharmonic Orchestra, Jubilee Auditorium and Centennial Planetarium. The Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts is under construction in Calgary, and will open by 1986.

There are also many recreational and sports facilities available, including St. George's Island Zoo and Dinosaur Park, McMahon Stadium, the Corral Arena, Glenmore Lake, Heritage Park, numerous golf courses and indoor and outdoor rinks and swimming pools.

Located close to Banff, Radium, Lake Louise, Waterton and other mountain resorts, Calgary offers abundant outdoor recreation within easy reach: hiking, swimming, golfing, fishing and skiing. The Calgary Stampede, an internationally famous rodeo, attracts thousands of tourists to the city each year.



The alpine ski events will take place o<sup>n</sup> Mount Sparrowhawk.



An artist's concept of the Olympic Coliseum, which will seat 18,000.