

Fisheries. These are carried out, in the main, on more than 12,000 miles of coastline on the Atlantic and some 7,000 miles on the Pacific. A continental shelf extending from both coasts provides water shallow enough to ensure ample feeding grounds and cold enough to give seawater fish firm flesh and fine flavour. In addition, Canada reaps a rich harvest in freshwater fish from large inland lakes. Canada ranks second, after Japan, as a fish exporter, and its fishing-grounds provide recreation to many visitors as well as Canadians.

Forestry. Canada's more than 1,000,000 square miles of productive softwood timber stands -- a constantly renewable resource -- provide about 27 per cent of the value of the country's exports. A huge pulp-and-paper industry accounts for about 17 per cent of Canadian exports -- including nearly half the world's newsprint needs and a diversity of packaging and shipping materials. Based on these rich resources, Canada is also the world's largest exporter of softwood lumber and wood products, which include plywood and other construction materials.

Minerals. Huge developments in recent years have made the metallic and non-metallic mineral industries the fastest growing group of industries in Canada, accounting for nearly one third of Canadian export values. With an average annual growth rate of 7.6 per cent in the 1960s, the extraction and processing of minerals of all kinds was, by 1966, adding to the Canadian economy gross revenues of more than \$4,000 million a year -- with vast areas yet to be tapped.

Canada is the world's leading producer of nickel, zinc and asbestos. It is second in gold, uranium, molybdenum, titanium, gypsum and sulphur (and on its way to becoming the world's leading source of potash). In the late 1960s, Canada was also the world's third most important source of iron ore, cobalt and the platinum metals. It was fourth in lead, silver and magnesium; fifth in copper and barite and, in the record as a whole, high in many other minerals.

Among these are virtually limitless resources of oil and natural gas, first major discoveries of which were made in Leduc, Alberta, in 1947. These discoveries were quickly followed by hundreds more until, by the late 1960s, Canada was producing, on balance, all its needs in petroleum and natural gas and exporting some of this production to the Western United States. Based on these resources, Canada has also become a significant producer of petrochemicals.

### Geography and Transportation

Canada is the second largest country in the world, after the Soviet Union. It extends 4,000 miles across approximately the 45th Parallel of the North American continent and has an area of nearly 4,000,000 square miles.

Since its main topographic barriers extend in a north-south direction, the country started out with whole sections separated by challenging topographical obstacles, including water barriers on the coasts, rough, rocky terrain between the Atlantic seaboard provinces and Quebec (the earliest settled lands), and vast stretches of rock, water and barren muskeg north of Lakes Huron and Superior over the 800 miles between Eastern Canada and the prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Finally, there was the rugged Rocky Mountain barrier