

exports, but this percentage has declined in recent years to 88.3 per cent. Japan is now buying 3.2 per cent, and Australia has emerged as an important consumer of Alberta's products.

Alberta's oil industry produces about one million barrels a day. Of this amount, 18 per cent is consumed in Alberta, 49 per cent in the other provinces (mainly Ontario) and 33 per cent is exported to the United States. Apart from conventional oil fields, Alberta has a rich potential in synthetic crude oil recoverable from the oil-bearing sands in the North of the province, near the Athabasca River. Although the Alsands project for recovering this oil was suspended last year because of a failure to secure sufficient investment, a new joint Canada-United States venture is co-sponsoring an experimental oil sands project designed to produce 2,500 barrels of synthetic crude per day. Alberta's other mineral resources include natural gas, with total estimated recoverable reserves of 52 trillion cubic feet, and coal, 11 million tons of which are mined per year.

It would be a mistake, however, to think of Alberta simply in terms of mineral wealth. Farmland is still very important. The province has over 20 million hectares devoted to crop and livestock production providing 20 per cent of Canada's total agricultural output. The province has several thousand head of dairy and beef cattle while the main crops are wheat, barley, and rapeseed. This last has been developed as a second source of oil. The Canola strain of rapeseed is crushed to produce cooking oil, margarine, shortening and high protein animal feed. In addition to agriculture, forestry is an important element of the province's economy. Over 60 per cent of its area is covered by forest, a percentage which has changed little since the first European settlers arrived in the late nineteenth century.

While most of the present population is British in origin, there are a large number whose ancestors are German, Ukrainian, Polish, Scandinavian and French. Fifty per cent of the population live in the two main cities, Edmonton (the provincial capital) and Calgary. The Progressive Conservative Government of Peter Lougheed was re-elected last November with 63 per cent of the popular vote, gaining 77 of the 79 seats in the Legislature. In office for the last twelve years, Mr. Lougheed has presided over the boom years which enabled him to establish the Alberta Heritage Fund out of oil revenues and to give his people the lowest personal tax rate in the country. Albertans are looking forward to the opening of Universiade 83, the World University Games, in Edmonton this July, as an occasion on which they can show their flourishing province to the world. They will be able to do this again in 1988 when the Winter Olympic Games will be held in Calgary.

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L'ACCORD-PECHE CANADA-CE

Le Secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires extérieures du Canada a profité de sa récente visite à Bruxelles pour exprimer au plus haut niveau le mécontentement canadien face à la mise en application de l'Accord-pêche signé le 30 décembre 1981.

L'Honorable MacEachen a informé le Vice-Président Haferkamp qu'il jugeait que la Communauté avait failli à ses obligations en 1982 et que les autorités canadiennes allaient en conséquence réduire les quotas de pêche alloués à la Communauté en 1983. Des rencontres devraient se tenir sous peu pour poursuivre les discussions sur le sujet.