

ALBERTA NEWSLETTER

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

MAR 16 1972



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VOL. I—No. 20

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MAY, 1956

Gordon Report Outlines Alberta Industrial Expansion

According to estimates presented by the Alberta Government to the Gordon Royal Commission on Canada's economic prospects, a shift in the importance of the province's major industries will take place in the next quarter century. By 1985 mining and manufacturing should lead agriculture in the value of production.

It is expected that the iron and steel and the refining industries will all triple production during the next twenty years. The petrochemical industry will continue to expand at a rapid pace as synthetics replace more and more natural products in the manufacture of clothing, rubber goods, soaps, medicines, and building materials. An exceptionally high demand is anticipated for plastics as the market appears almost unlimited. It is expected, however, that there will be a levelling off in rate of growth for all industry as it reaches maturity.

Industrial expansion necessarily means increased power development. Alberta's rivers are capable of adding nearly 2,850 million K.W.H. to the generating capacity of the province but these are not expected to be fully developed in the forecast period. Because many of the sites are far removed from major population centres and industry, it is likely that gas and coal will provide 50 to 60 percent of the annual requirements. With an expected increase in the price of gas, it is estimated that power generated by the use of that fuel will decrease from 40 to 12 percent while power generated by coal will increase from three to 42 percent. No import of power to the province is expected during the period reviewed and the only possibility of exporting power is to the mining

areas of northeastern Saskatchewan or to the southern Northwest Territories.

Nuclear reactors, which are now in the pilot plant stage, may be installed in a few plants during the 1960's but it is unlikely that any will be in operation industrially before 1970. Nuclear energy for the next 20 years will be used primarily to supplement existing waterpower resources, particularly in regions which lack fossil fuels.

The development of nuclear reactors will have a direct effect on the market for uranium which is now being mined in large amounts in the Lake Athabasca area. The market for uranium is likely to diminish briefly after 1962 if the military requirement is reduced. It is at that time that the present guaranteed Government market expires. As more nuclear reactors are put into operation, however, the demand must again rise.

Also closely connected with power development is the fate of the waning coal industry. Production is expected to continue its downward course for about five years, but with the rise in price of natural gas, steam plants will turn to coal for firing. By 1985, total output will rise to some eight million tons yearly. Predictions are that, on a long-term basis, the future of the industry is assured.

A study of the development of nuclear energy in the province assures that it will not effect the market for oil and natural gas for at least twenty years but even at that time demand for liquid fuels will continue. With increasing discoveries of oil fields in Alberta, interest in developing the Athabasca oil sands has fallen off. The present outlook is that as long as Alberta crude oil production continues to grow and the problem of finding market outlets for this oil persists, there will be little incentive to bring the sands into production. They are a valuable reserve, however, and enough is known about how to deal with them that quite prompt development can take place when they are needed.

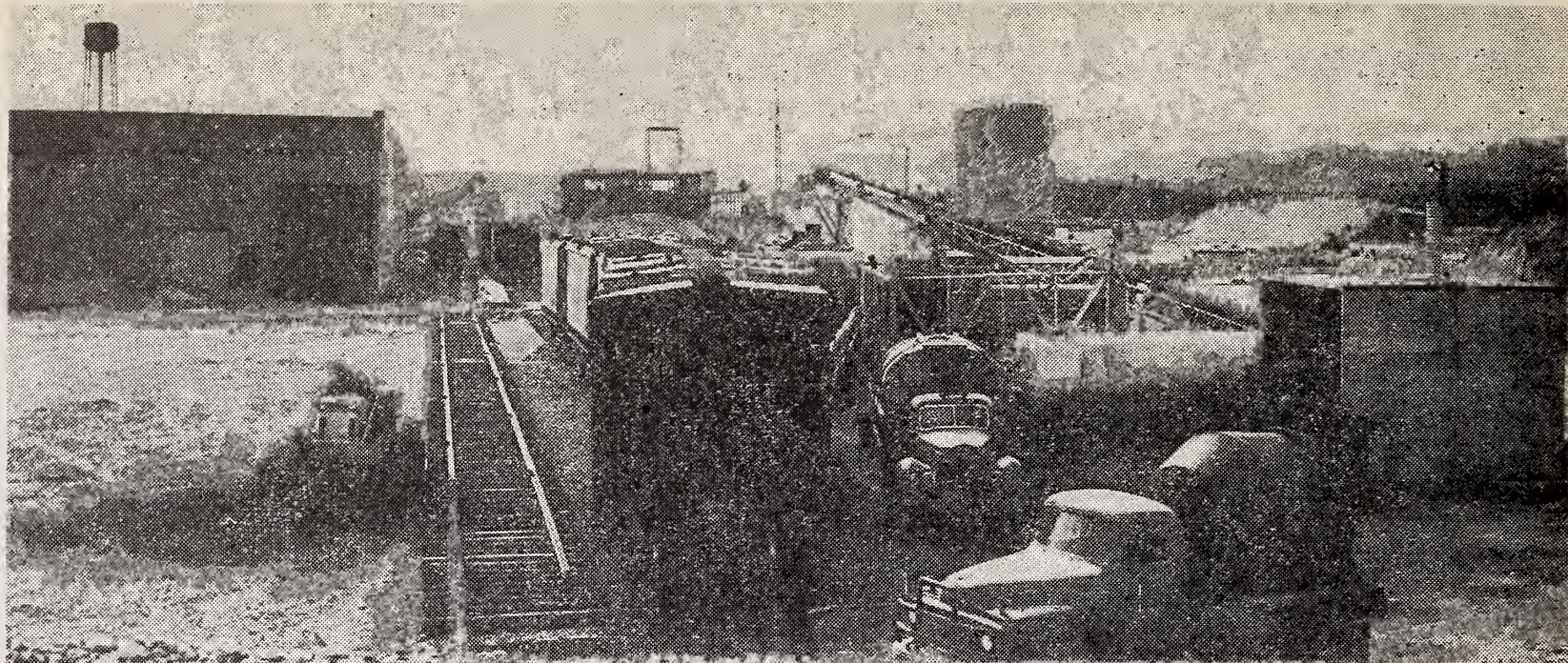
Development of the Athabasca oil sands will also release a tremendous quantity of silica sand, suitable for glass manufacture, as an industrial material.

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The purpose of the ALBERTA NEWSLETTER is to provide up-to-date information about development and opportunities in Alberta.

In this issue—

- Gordon Commission report.
- Hinton pulp mill.
- Survey of Wainwright.



The spur line that now delivers construction material to the Hinton pulp mill, will soon be the starting point for bleached sulphate pulp that will be marketed throughout the world.

North West Pulp & Power Co. Ltd., at Hinton

Alberta's first pulp mill is now under construction near Hinton, 180 miles west of Edmonton. After careful consideration, the Hinton site was chosen because of its accessibility to water supplies, pulp wood, natural gas and railway lines. The cost of the mill is estimated at \$35,000,000 with a daily production of 430 tons of bleached sulphate pulp.

The mill is jointly owned by the St. Regis Paper Co. of New York and Northern Canadian Oils. Sale and distribution of the bleached sulphate pulp, a principal ingredient of kraft paper, will be handled by the St. Regis Paper Co. The product, "Alberta Hi Brite Craft", will be shipped to all parts of North America and throughout the world.

Negotiations with the Alberta Government resulted in a lease of 6,000 square miles of timber land. White spruce and lodgepole pine, ideal sources of sulphate, are the trees which will supply the annual 300,000 cords of wood.

Conservation authorities are not worried about this inroad into Alberta's natural timber reserve as the mill will cut on a sustained-yield basis. Whereas most of the province's saw mills are of the mobile type and can afford to be selective as to size and species of trees due to their "cut-and-move-on" policy, the Hinton mill, because of the size of investment and the continuous operation cannot be so critical of the quality of wood. Other conservation provisions include the appointment of a chief forest ranger for the project and the stationing of a trained crew of fire fighters at every camp.

After a study of latest developments in machines and manufacturing methods in Scandinavia, Germany, Austria and North America, the mill was designed along the most modern lines. It will have the world's largest installation of the new Kamyr continuous cooking process—the first such installation in North America. Two-stage chlorine dioxide bleaching will be provided in the six stage bleach plant. The

450-ton Dominion-Minton drying machine composed of 66 dryers (probably the greatest number ever built into one unit) will be totally enclosed. The machine will be completed with automatic baling and weighing apparatus to pack the sheets of pulp into 400-pound bales.

The power house will contain two steam boilers with a capacity of 175,000 pounds per hour. One will be fired by natural gas and the other by natural gas and wood bark. A ten-inch, 140-mile pipeline, costing about \$5,000,000 to build, will bring 10 million cubic feet of natural gas from a point about 25 miles northwest of Edmonton. Part of the equipment under construction is a settling basin and filtration basin. The mill will use an estimated 25,000,000 gallons of water daily which will be supplied by a pumping station near the plant on the Athabasca River.

Initial plans for the 500-acre townsite call for a commercial or business area, an apartment section, approximately 140 residential lots each with a minimum size of 60 by 100 feet, three schools and place for parks and playgrounds. The officials have stated it will not be a company town and that "proper residential and commercial sites will be offered for public sale."

All streets in the commercial area will be paved, with the 160-foot wide main street providing ample space for parking on each side. Contracts are presently being negotiated for the laying of sewer and water lines. The town will be supplied with natural gas and power and water services will be purchased from plants now being built for the Northwestern Company.

The objective for 1956 is 500 homes. Plans are being made for an estimated population of 3,000 when the mill opens in 1957 and an ultimate population of 5,000. The mill will give employment to approximately 500 when completed and another 1,500 will find work in the woodlands operations.



TOWN OF WAINWRIGHT

Location: Section 31-44-6-W4 in census division No. 7; located 127 miles southeast of Edmonton on the transcontinental line of the C.N.R.

Altitude: 2,224.37 feet.

Temperature: Average summer 55.6 degrees; average winter 17.5 degrees; average annual 34 degrees.

Rainfall: Average rainfall 12.7 inches; average snowfall 41 inches; average annual precipitation 16.8 inches.

Geology: The bedrock of this area underlying the glacial deposits is the Belly River formation of the Upper Cretaceous period. This formation is a series of light colored sandstones and shales which, in other parts of the province, includes dinosaur beds and coal seams.

Soil: Wainwright lies at the juncture of two soil zones, the shallow black and dark brown. The black soil is fairly fertile and lends itself to the growing of wheat but exhaustive cropping quickly depletes its native food supply. Only the better types of dark brown soil can be considered arable and here wheat is grown almost to the exclusion of all other crops. Care must be taken to provide for conservation of moisture and control of soil drifting. Non-arable areas of both soil types are generally good pasture.

History: The area surrounding Wainwright was settled by mostly English speaking homesteaders from eastern Canada and the United States in the year 1905-06. Population increased rapidly after the arrival of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway in 1909 when Wainwright was established as a divisional point. The town was named after William Wainwright, at that time second vice-president of the Grand Trunk Pacific. It was incorporated as a town in 1910. Oil and gas were discovered in the vicinity in 1924 and an oil refinery was built near the town in 1929. In that year, also, the entire mercantile district of the town was destroyed by fire. Water works were installed in 1930.

About 1910 the Government of Canada set aside 234 sections of land adjoining the town and stocked it with 740 buffalo, moose, elk and deer. The "Wainwright Park" was a great tourist attraction until its conversion in 1941 to one of Canada's largest and most modern military training camps.

Population: 1951 census, 2,750.

Living Conditions: Wainwright is surrounded by slightly rolling land studded with bluffs of poplar and willow. The southern boundary of the town joins one of the largest military camps in Canada. A public library and weekly newspaper serve the people. Two movie theatres, a drive-in, and facilities for almost every kind of summer and winter sport are provided. There is good hunting for geese, ducks and Hungarian partridge.

Rent for a four-room cottage runs between \$50 and \$55 per month and about 85 percent of residences are owner occupied.

Laws and Regulations: Provincial standards are adhered to in electrical and sanitary installations. All plans for new buildings must be approved by the town planning commission and gas installations must comply with town by-laws. There is a local police force consisting of three constables and a magistrate and a small R.C. M.P. detachment.

Fire Protection: A fire brigade of fourteen volunteers has at its disposal a Ford-Thibault crash tender with 400 gallon booster tank and pump. There are 36 fire hydrants. The water is drawn from a 184-foot well and stored in two concrete tanks at the fire station. When a fire occurs, equipment providing regular domestic supplies is shut off and water is pumped directly into the mains from these storage tanks.

Tax Structure: The total net assessment for 1955 on land and improvements amounted to \$2,500,902 while the total mill rate was set at 57.

Areas: The town of Wainwright covers an area of 980 acres with a 40-acre exhibition grounds. It has a total of 24 miles of streets and lanes, none of which are paved, and six miles of concrete and wood sidewalks.

Power: Three phase 60 cycle electric power is supplied by Calgary Power Limited.

Water and Sewage: The town is served by 38,800 feet of sanitary sewer and 34,500 feet of water main. Water is pumped from a 310-foot well into a 55,000 gallon enclosed concrete reservoir. It then goes to a pressure tank with a working capacity of 7,000 gallons. There are about 225 domestic services and all are metered. The sewer system is handled through an Inhoff tank which discharges into a 1,000-foot ditch leading to a lake west of town.

Fuel: Natural gas is supplied by the Wainwright Gas Company from local wells. Coal is shipped from Edmonton, Drumheller and Tofield.

Resources: Wheat and coarse grains, dairy products, honey, livestock, poultry products, gas, oil, sand and gravel, straw, wood fuel.

Government Offices and Services: Federal; post-office, Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of National Defence, R.C.M.P. Provincial; police magistrate, liquor store, Treasury Branch, Alberta Government Telephones, School Division Office No. 82, district agriculturist, health unit. Municipal; town hall, town clerk, building inspector, utilities supervisor, public library, fire hall, plumbing and gas inspectors, Municipal District Office No. 61, police barracks.

Health Services: The \$200,000 hospital completed in 1948 operates under the Municipal Hospital Act which allows reduced rates of \$1.60 per day to ratepayers in public wards and \$5.70 for non-ratepayers. The hospital has 51 beds and is served by five doctors and 13 nurses.

Professional and Skilled Personal Services: Auditors and accountants, lawyers, beauty parlors, barber shops, jewellers, optometrists.

Transportation: Six trains operate daily, both ways, from Edmonton and Saskatoon on the Canadian National Railway's main line. The Sunburst Motor Coach Company has a daily schedule from Wainwright to Edmonton.

Communications: Canadian National Telegraphs, Alberta Government Telephones, post office, radio stations at Edmonton, Red Deer, Lacombe, and Camrose, the "Wainwright Star Chronicle" with a circulation of 1,980 in the Wainwright, Chauvin and Edgerton districts.

Financial Facilities: Bank of Montreal, Treasury Branch and Credit Union.

Hotels and Tourist Camps: Two hotels have a total of 85 rooms with rates from \$1.50 up. There is one cabin camp and a motel with 24 units.

Churches: Anglican, United, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Roman Catholic, Nazarene, Gospel Mission.

Lodges, Service Clubs and Societies: Masons, I.O. O.F., Orangemen, Elks, Eastern Star, Rebekah's, Royal Purple, Canadian Legion, Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade, Ladies Hospital Guild, Ladies Auxiliary, Kinsmen, Lions, Wainwright Hockey Commission, Home and School Association, Red Cross Society, Fish and Game Association, Wainwright Athletic Association, Peace Memorial Society, Wainwright Curling Association.

Education: Wainwright school has 22 classrooms and 23 teachers. Grades 1-12 are taught with optional subjects including shop, home economics, music, art, typing and shorthand. There is also a Roman Catholic separate school which accommodates 135 pupils.

Cultural Activities: There is a public library with about 4,000 volumes and school activities in art, music and drama.

Industrial Development: Agriculture is still the major industry. Four elevators have a storage capacity of 205,000 bushels. There are 11 oil wells, five gas wells and an oil refinery in the vicinity. Industrial sites close to railway trackage and other services are available at reasonable prices.

GORDON REPORT (continued from page 1)

Though agriculture will slip behind as related to the value of manufactured products, land under cultivation is expected to increase by 3,200,000 acres. Emphasis will switch to coarse grains in order to supply feed for greatly increased numbers of livestock. An increase for all related industries such as packing plants, mills, cheese factories and tanneries will result.

Another industry which will be on the increase during the next quarter century is the tourist industry. The number of tourists to visit the province in a single year may be expected to climb to 4,750,000 who will spend \$200,000,000 in Alberta yearly.

Although examination of the more accessible areas of Alberta's forests indicate that care will have to be used in the cutting of spruce and pine, markets will be found to allow a continuation of timber production. Poplar, which makes up 45 percent of Alberta timber, will increase in value as plywood plants are built.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON
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or

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Legislative Building
Edmonton, Alberta