

Toward the close of the year, 30 wells in this area were producing daily 3,500 bbl. of oil of excellent quality, free of sulphur and with lubricant content. The oil is being carried from the field by pipeline to railhead at Nisku, about 8 miles east of the field. The Leduc field is developing in a most promising way and offers to be the greatest Canadian oil discovery since Turner Valley.

The following table gives production by fields, in 1947.

**24.—Production of Alberta Oil Fields, 1947**

NOTE.—Figures for total production of petroleum for the years 1922-46, are given at p. 473 of the 1947 Year Book.

Field	Quantity	Field	Quantity
	bbl.		bbl.
Turner Valley.....	5,449,575	Wainwright.....	18,325
Leduc.....	372,427	Del Bonita.....	4,312
Lloydminster (Alberta side).....	304,236	Dina.....	4,159
Taber.....	205,236	Jumping Pound.....	2,619
Conrad.....	202,929	Provost.....	115
Vermilion.....	138,401	Bantry.....	30
Princess.....	106,920		
		<b>Total.....</b>	<b>6,809,284</b>

*The Tar Sands and Bituminous Developments.*—Alberta, in its bituminous sands deposit at McMurray, has the greatest known oil reserve on the face of the earth. Estimates vary between that of Canadian geologists at 100,000,000,000 tons and that of the United States Bureau of Mines at 250,000,000,000 tons. The yield at present is about one barrel of oil per ton of sands.

At Bitumount, 50 miles north of McMurray on the Athabaska River, an Oil Sands, Limited, plant has been erected and experimentation regarding processing of the sand in that area is being carried out. Overburden covering the outcrop is very light at Bitumount and the product, being soft, lends itself more readily to separation than the harder outcrop in other parts of the reserve.

Another feature of the Bitumount area is the question of usage of the separated sand for glass manufacture. The sand analysed for such purpose has been favourably reported on, and quantities have been transported to points of manufacture.

A rich deposit of 'liquid bitumen' has been uncovered by Federal Government geologists on the west side of the Mildred-Ruth Lakes area, opposite the mouth of Steepbank River, 20 miles north of Fort McMurray in northeastern Alberta. The estimate of bitumen content per acre ranges as high as 350,000 bbl. The deposit is located within 20 miles of the north terminus of the Northern Alberta Railway at Waterways, and is about 250 miles north and east of Edmonton.

Within the area of best-grade material in the deposit, the 18 holes assayed thus far give a good indication of the quality and size of the deposit and, while they are quite insufficient for any precise estimates, the presence of a deposit large enough to warrant consideration of commercial development is indicated.

**Natural Gas.**—The producing natural gas wells in Eastern Canada are in southwestern Ontario, and near Moncton, N.B. In Western Canada the principal producing fields are in Alberta and include the Turner Valley (about 35 miles southwest of Calgary), Medicine Hat, Viking (about 80 miles southeast of Edmonton), Redcliff, Foremost, Bow Island and Wetaskiwin. Wainwright, Alta., is supplied