

Saskatchewan.—Exploratory work declined significantly in Saskatchewan from the peak levels reached in 1957. In addition to declines in the geophysical and geological phases, exploratory drilling slumped from the high of 355 wells in 1957 to 222 in 1958 and 175 in 1959. The success ratio, which during the peak years in 1956 and 1957 was the highest in Canada, fell considerably. There were no significant new discoveries in 1959.

Development drilling in established fields in 1959 was at the same level as in 1958 when 581 development wells were drilled. About 17 p.c. of all development drilling was done in the Steelman field followed by Weyburn, Alameda, Carnduff, Queensdale and Midale, all in the southeast corner of the province.

Manitoba.—Exploratory drilling in Manitoba was largely unproductive in 1958 and 1959. In each year, 16 wells were drilled but only one well, drilled in 1958, was successful. No new fields have been discovered since 1957 when the Kirkella field was found. Development drilling in 1959 was at about half the level of 1958, when 76 wells were drilled.

Yukon and Northwest Territories.—One of the most significant oil strikes during 1959 was that made in the Yukon Territory at the Chance Number 1 well. This well is 325 miles northwest of the Norman Wells field, which is the only producing field in the Territories. The success in this virgin region has extended the boundaries of known oil resources in the Western Canada sedimentary basin to within 200 miles of the Arctic Coast. In all, five wells were drilled in the Territories in 1959 but four were dry holes.

Land holdings in the Territories amounted to 98,000,000 acres. In addition, 130,000,000 acres in the Arctic Islands were held by persons, pending revision of the Territorial Oil and Gas Regulations (see pp. 566-567).

Eastern Canada.—In Eastern Canada, exploration for oil and gas continued at close to the same rate as in 1958 but only in Ontario was the work successful. Four wells drilled in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick during 1959 proved unproductive and the rig was moved to Cape Breton Island to test locations there. In Ontario the most noteworthy success was the offshore oil discovery near Colchester which was rated as one of the best discoveries ever made in this province. Natural gas discoveries in the Port Maitland area increased the provincial potential by about 5,000,000 cu. feet daily.

Petroleum Refining and Marketing.—No new refineries came on stream in 1959 but two were under construction and scheduled to come into operation by mid-1960. These bring the total number of operating refineries in Canada to 44 and cause some change in refining capacity distribution by raising the Maritime's portion to about 8 p.c. and Quebec's to about 32 p.c. During 1959 plant expansion and modernization increased crude oil capacity to 857,000 bbl. daily. In terms of crude throughput capacity, the Canadian industry ranks third in the world after the United States and the United Kingdom. The rate of growth of the refining industry is illustrated by the data in Table 2.

2.—Petroleum Refining Throughput Capacity, by Region, 1940, 1950 and 1959

Region	1940		1950		1959 ^p	
	bbl. per day	p.c.	bbl. per day	p.c.	bbl. per day	p.c.
Maritime Provinces.....	32,750	15.1	22,300	6.2	49,300	5.8
Quebec.....	64,500	29.6	143,000	39.8	264,800	30.9
Ontario.....	57,500	26.5	75,200	21.0	251,422	29.3
Prairie Provinces and Northwest Territories....	38,020	17.5	89,525	25.0	192,435	22.5
British Columbia.....	24,500	11.3	28,850	8.0	99,250	11.5
Canada.....	217,270	100.0	358,875	100.0	857,207	100.0