

are based on forest resources—sawmills, pulp and paper mills, veneer and plywood mills and sash and door and planing mills.

The mineral resources of the province are quite diversified. The south-central area has long been famous for its large base-metal mines from which comes the country's major output of zinc and lead as well as quantities of gold, silver, antimony, cadmium, bismuth, tin, indium and tungsten. Base-metal mines also exist in the northwest and iron mines on the east coast of Vancouver Island and across the Strait on the mainland. Gypsum and barite are mined in the south-central interior, asbestos in the northern interior and coal in several areas along the eastern boundary. The most recent mineral development in the province has taken place in the Peace River district close to the Alberta boundary from which area natural gas and oil are now being shipped by pipeline to Vancouver refineries. Petroleum refining has become the province's third largest industry, using mainly crude from Alberta's wells.

The prolific waters of the Pacific provide British Columbia's fishermen with large and valuable harvests. The salmon fishery is the most important, although catches of herring are heavy. Halibut, third in importance, is taken mainly farther north. Since three quarters of the annual catch of salmon is canned and herring reaches the market in the form of oil and meal, fish processing is a major industry. Most of the halibut is sent frozen to the United States market.

British Columbia ranks third among the provinces in value of manufacturing production. Its hydro-power potential is the second greatest in Canada and its installed capacity is exceeded only by those of Ontario and Quebec. This availability of power is being instrumental in diversifying the industries of the province and in promoting the establishment of such power-using industries as the large aluminum smelting facilities at Kitimat on the northeast coast and the great smelters at Trail on the southern border.

Less than 2 p.c. of the land area of British Columbia is classed as occupied agricultural land and this occurs in the southern part of Vancouver Island and in the river valleys and plateau areas of the south-central mainland. Thus, although agriculture is not of major significance to the province as a whole, it is of considerable importance in these areas. The Okanagan Valley is world famous for its fruit and the interior plateaus, especially the Cariboo region, for beef cattle. The other farming areas produce mixed crops but specialize in small fruits, vegetables and horticultural products. It is in this arable portion that the greater part of British Columbia's population exists. Of its 1,629,082 residents in 1961, 1,113,414 lived in 0.5 p.c. of the total area, in the southwest corner, and 85 p.c. lived across the south, within about a hundred miles of the United States boundary. Vancouver with its environs had a population of 790,165; it is the third largest city in Canada and is a rapidly growing industrial complex. Victoria, the capital of the province, located on the southern tip of Vancouver Island, had a population of 154,152.

