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Abstract: The article presents information on resources and industry in Canada. The author states that forests occupy most of the land space in Canada. This vast amount of timber enables Canada to be the world's leading producer and exporter of pulp and paper products. Inexpensive waterpower and extensive river transportation make timbering readily profitable. Fishing and fur trapping were Canada's first industries. Although relatively little of Canada's land-space is covered by cities and towns, the country is not suitable for agricultural farming. Oil is Canada's most valuable mineral resource. Canada is also the world leader in the production of zinc and nickel.

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Resources and Industry in Canada

Forests occupy most of the land space in Canada. This vast amount of timber enables Canada to be the world's leading producer and exporter of pulp and paper products. Inexpensive waterpower and extensive river transportation make timbering readily profitable.

Although relatively little of Canada's landscape is covered by cities and towns, the country is not suitable for agricultural farming. This is because most of the ground in Canada is non-arable. The best farming is done in the St. Lawrence lowlands, where crops such as potatoes, cabbage, carrots, corn, tomatoes, onions, and tobacco are grown. Wheat is easily grown on the great Canadian plains, and Canada is one of the world's foremost wheat producers. However, this crop makes up only 15 — 20% of the country's total farm income. Livestock and livestock products, provide the greatest amount of income for farmers.

Fishing and fur trapping were Canada's first industries. These industries enticed many new settlers to emigrate into Canada. The shallow waters off of the Atlantic coast are among the world's richest fishing grounds, especially in cod. The Pacific Coast rivers and streams are great resources for the salmon industry.

Oil is Canada's most valuable mineral resource. When large fields were discovered near Edmonton beginning in 1947, Canada became a major oil producer. The Leduc field, the Pembina field, the Norman Wells field, and the lands around the Athabasca River are all well-known Canadian oilfields. The province of Alberta leads Canada in both oil and natural gas production.

The longest oil pipeline in the world is the Interprovincial Pipeline, which is 2,025 miles long and stretches from Alberta to Ontario and into the United States. The longest natural gas pipeline is also located in Canada; it is called the Trans-Canada Pipeline which reaches from Alberta to Montreal for a span of 2,462 miles.

Canada is also the world leader in the production of zinc and nickel. Zinc is used for many things in everyday life, such as typewriter frames, automobile horns, and door handles. Alloys of zinc are found in paint and many medicines. Nickel is used in making coins. An alloy of nickel called "nickel steel" is highly durable and is used in the making of bridges, armor plate, railroad rails, rivets, locomotive boilers, and many other items. Major mines of these minerals are located in Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia.

No other country produces more of the radioactive element uranium than Canada. The uranium which was used in the first atomic bomb came from mines in the Northwest Territories. Other minerals mined in Canada include coal, gypsum, molybdenum, sulfur, and iron.

FISHING. This is an important industry in Canada's economy. Over 90% of the annual commercial fish catch comes from the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Canada exports as much as one billion dollars worth of fish each year, making it one of the largest exporters of fish in the world.

The most common fish caught in the Atlantic Ocean is cod. Fishers in the Pacific area catch mostly salmon. Lobsters, trout, and walleye are other aquatic wildlife found in Canada.

MINERALS...Canada exports its minerals to over ninety countries. Most of these minerals are non-fuel minerals (minerals not used for oil or gas).

GOLD...Canada produces about 165 tons of gold annually, making it the world's fifth largest producer. Gold is found in all of the territories and provinces except Prince Edward Island.

SILVER...Canada also ranks third in the production of silver. Ontario, British Columbia, New Brunswick, and the Yukon Territory are the major producers of silver in Canada.

ASBESTOS...This is an incombustible (not capable of burning) mineral which is also resistant to many chemicals. These characteristics lend themselves to approximately 3,000 industrial uses, such as insulation and brake linings. Canada is the leading producer of asbestos, providing about 40% of the world's asbestos supply. Seventy countries around the world import Canadian asbestos.

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