

shales are directly overlain by the Athgarh Sandstone. Thus the time gap between the earliest Permian and the Late Mesozoic is not represented by sediments in this area, a case comparable to the Palar Basin¹⁰.

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NEWS

BIGGEST NORTH SEA OIL FIND IN THIRTEEN YEARS

Energy companies believe they have made the biggest oil and gas find in Britain's North Sea during the past 13 years.

They estimate that the field, about 200 km east of the Orkney Islands, could contain between 350 and 700 million barrels of oil and 20,000 million cubic metres of gas.

This would make it the most important field since

the discovery in 1974 of the Ninian field, containing 1,000 million barrels of oil and lying some 175 km further north.

It would also confound the generally held belief that all large fields in the North Sea have already been identified. (*British Information Services*, British High Commission, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110 021.)

NEW TECHNOLOGY OF FRUCTOSE PRODUCTION

A valuable new technology of fructose production has been developed by the Institute of Microbiology of Armenian Academy of Sciences. The method is based on the treatment of the Jerusalem artichoke.

Under the new technology the yield of fructose is doubled compared to the conventional method based on starch and cellulose. The new technology

will be commercialized at a special shop to be built in the Institute campus. (*Soviet Features—Science and Technology*, Vol. XXVI, No. 106, Sept. 8, 1987; Published by the Information Department, USSR Embassy in India, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi 110 001).
