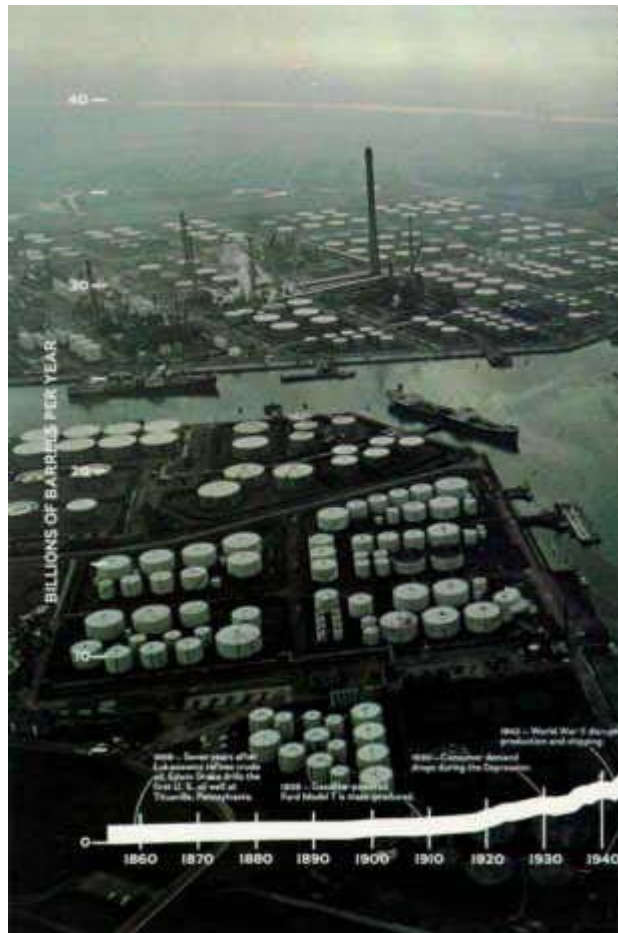


**"Oil, the Dwindling Treasure"**  
 by Noel Grove, Photographs by Emory Kristof  
 National Geographic, June, 1974



**Caption:**

**""THE END OF THE OIL AGE is in sight,' says U.S. petroleum geologist M. King Hubbert.... If present trends continue, Dr. Hubbert estimates, production will peak in 1995 -- the deadline for alternative forms of energy that must replace petroleum in the sharp drop-off that follows."**

**Two centuries of oil**

**"THE END OF THE OIL AGE is in sight,"** says U.S. petroleum geologist M. King Hubbert. He bases his bell-shaped curve on estimated ultimate production of 2,000 billion barrels from the world's oil wells, including 300 billion barrels already used up by 1974 and 628 billion of now-proven reserves. His chart appears here against a portion of the world's largest refinery complex, at Rotterdam in the Netherlands. If present trends continue, Dr. Hubbert estimates, production will peak in 1995—the deadline for alternative forms of energy that must replace petroleum in the sharp drop-off that follows.