

FRANCE-CANADA A-PACT EXTENDED

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and the French Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique have announced agreement on the extension of their co-operation in the exchange of research and development information relating to nuclear-power reactors moderated by heavy water.

The agreement provides for the exchange of existing technical information in this field and such information as will be obtained during the next five years from AECL and the CEA. The parties will also assist each other in the development of nuclear-power systems of this type.

The exchange does not include full design details of specific nuclear-power stations such as the Douglas Point, Pickering and Gentilly nuclear power stations in Canada and of the EL-4 nuclear power station in France. The agreement does include the exchange of information of commercial value and, as a consequence, there is provision for a payment by the CEA to AECL to balance the difference in value of the initial exchange of technology.

Co-operation between AECL and the CEA dates from the Second World War, when French scientists worked in Canada along with British and Canadian scientists. The first heavy water for the early experiments was brought to Canada by the French.

Close ties have been maintained between the two organizations since that time, but the extent of technical co-operation was limited because the French concentrated primarily on the development of the gas-cooled type of nuclear-power system. However, with a growing interest of the CEA in heavy-water-moderated reactor systems with water coolant and an enlarged CEA development programme, particularly in materials research, the way is now open for expanded technical co-operation between AECL and the CEA, which will be of mutual benefit.

UNESCO DELEGATES

Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced that the Canadian delegation to the fifteenth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is led by Mr. Napoléon LeBland, Vice-Rector of Laval University and President of the Canadian National Commission for UNESCO. The two deputy heads are Mr. Graham McInnes, Canadian Permanent Delegate to UNESCO in Paris, and Mr. L.H. Bergstrom, Deputy Minister of Education of Saskatchewan.

This biennial conference taking place from October 15 to November 20 in Paris, the permanent site of the Organization, brings together representatives of 130 countries to discuss UNESCO's programme in the Organization's various areas of activity, such as education, natural science, social science and communications.

Other members of the Canadian delegation are: Mr. G.W. MacKenzie, Director, Inspection Services, Department of Education, Nova Scotia; Mr. J.R. Meredith, Assistant Superintendent, (Instructional

Services), Department of Education, British Columbia; Mrs. Madeleine Joubert, Director General, Canadian Institute for Adult Education; Dr. Georges Volkoff, Head, Department of Physics, University of British Columbia; Mr. Marc Adélar Tremblay, Professor of Anthropology, Laval University; Mr. Alphonse Ouimet, former President of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; Dr. William Rogers, Head, Department of French, Trinity College, University of Toronto; Mr. J.J. MacDonald, Dean of Science, St. Francis-Xavier, University of Nova Scotia; Mr. D.W. Bartlett, Secretary-General, Canadian National Commission for UNESCO.

Mr. W.W. Meldrum, Minister of Education of New Brunswick and Mr. F.W. Rowe, Minister of Education for Newfoundland, are accompanying the Canadian delegation as observers as a result of the invitation extended by Mr. Sharp to the provinces. Several officers from the Department of External Affairs are attached to the delegation as advisers.

WEATHER FILM WINS AWARD

The recently-released National Film Board colour film *In One Day*, the first ever made on the work of the Canadian weather service, has been awarded a prize at the recent International Film Festival in Rome.

In One Day won the trophy in the category films of technical and industrial information in the "Grand Prize of Cinematographic Technique", held in conjunction with the Electronic, Nuclear, Teleradio and Cinematographic Exhibition.

The 35-mm. documentary produced in English and French by the NFB in co-operation with the Department of Transport Meteorological Branch, is currently showing in theatres across Canada and will soon be widely available in 16 mm. for general public use.

The film will also be distributed to all Canadian diplomatic and trade posts abroad.

NEW AIR-CUSHION CRAFT

A new type of air-cushion vehicle, the *Terraplane*, has undergone three weeks of engineering tests at Orleans, about ten miles east of Ottawa.

The tests were conducted for the Department of Transport at the Land Engineering Trials Establishment of the Department of National Defence. Designed and built by the French firm of Bertin & Cie, the *Terraplane* BC. 7 was obtained for the tests through the company's Canadian agent, Hoverwork Canada Limited.

The vehicle, which resembles a huge truck, rests on wheels but is equipped with air cushions that give it certain amphibious qualities.

Essentially a land conveyance, the *Terraplane* is designed for use over crudely-cleared or bulldozed tracts of land in all seasons or weather conditions. It can ford rivers, cross marshes and manoeuvre on sand, mud, ice and snow. The vehicle is capable of speeds up to 50 miles an hour on level ground. Its