

BRITAIN-CANADA A-AGREEMENTS

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) and the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) recently concluded an agreement to extend and regulate their collaboration on research and development concerned with heavy-water moderated, water-cooled reactors and their fuel.

This agreement is an extension of the long-standing co-operation that has existed between Canada and Britain in the nuclear field and is designed primarily to facilitate the exchange of information, experience and "know-how" that is considered to be of commercial value.

EXCHANGE OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION

AECL and UKAEA have agreed to exchange technological information that has already been obtained or may be obtained over the next five years, to assist each other in the development of their heavy-water moderated reactor programmes. In the case of Canada, this information arises from research and development work in support of the CANDU reactor now being erected at Douglas Point, Ontario; and, in the case of Britain, from the programme related to the Steam Generating Heavy Water Reactor (SGHW) being built at Winfrith Heath in Dorset.

The exchange does not include full design details of specific generating stations such as CANDU and SGHW, and protects the commercial interests of each party with respect to such stations.

In consideration of the intensive programme already carried out by Canada in the development of heavy-water moderated reactors, the UKAEA is paying AECL a lump sum of \$750,000.

AECL has agreed to supply the UKAEA with full data, up to the manufacturing state, of the nuclear fuel developed in Canada for the CANDU-type reactor. The UKAEA has undertaken to pay a royalty of three per cent if it supplies fuel of this type to a reactor operator whose plant has been designed or licensed by AECL or Canadian industry.

The joint programmes on fuel development will be continued, making use of such facilities as the test reactors of Chalk River, where the UKAEA has a part interest in some of the equipment designed specifically for developing a system using fuel elements cooled by boiling water and steam. Under the agreement the parties may undertake joint development programmes.

DOUGLAS POINT

The Douglas Point Nuclear Power Station, with its CANDU reactor, is being built on the shore of Lake Huron by Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, with the co-operation of Ontario Hydro. The plant, which is scheduled for completion in 1964 and for commercial operation in 1965, will have an electrical output of 200,000 kilowatts. The reactor will be fuelled with natural uranium dioxide and will be cooled and moderated with heavy water.

The Steam Generating Heavy Water Reactor (SGHW) in Britain will have an electrical output of 100,000 kilowatts. It will be fuelled with slightly-enriched uranium dioxide and will be cooled by ordinary water

and moderated with heavy water. Like the CANDU reactor, the SGHW reactor will have zirconium-alloy pressure tubes to contain the fuel; but these will be vertical, rather than horizontal as in CANDU.

NATIONAL FORESTRY MEET

New areas of federal-provincial co-operation in Canadian forestry were explored and existing co-operative programmes were reviewed when federal and provincial forest ministers met in Ottawa last week.

The meeting, the first of its kind, was held on the invitation of Mr. John R. Nicholson, the federal Minister of Forestry. Ministers responsible for forest administration in the 10 provinces and their senior advisers attended for the main purpose of reviewing the federal-provincial forestry agreements expiring March 31, 1964, and their possible renewal.

Also among the agenda were: Consideration of expanded co-operative forest-information programmes; improvements in federal forestry-research efforts; the desirability of a national forest-soils survey programme; the advisability of establishing forest advisory committees; federal participation in forest-fire suppression; and the advisability of a national forest youth training programme.

FURNITURE MISSION HOME

Mr. C.M. Drury, Minister of Industry, recently announced that the Canadian Technical Mission on Furniture Manufacture had returned to Canada following a two-week study of the latest techniques and trends in the marketing and merchandising of furniture in the United States. A comprehensive review of the U.S. furniture manufacturing and retailing industries was obtained from extensive visits and interviews with retailers, manufacturers, permanent furniture-mart operators, freight forwarders, designers, trade associations, and other related service groups. The regions visited included the furniture producing and marketing areas of North Carolina, New York City and Chicago. The mission reported that it had been given a cordial reception and had had useful exchanges of information with the firms visited.

COMMON PROBLEMS

The mission found that many of the problems of the Canadian industry were common to their American counterparts. Some of these problems involved the stimulation of the consumer market through better standards of production and design, the dissemination of product knowledge to retailers and the minimizing of costs of transportation and storage facilities.

In particular, the growth of strong national associations of furniture manufacturers and distributors had contributed substantially to the solution of these problems. The mission was of the opinion that many of the approaches employed in the United States had application to Canada and that the methods of com-

(Over)