

both in the capital-intensive mills which are highly mechanized, and in the labour-intensive clothing factories of Montreal. Montreal is also the centre of the boot and shoe industry.

A significant proportion of Canada's organic and inorganic heavy chemicals are produced in Quebec. There are a number of petroleum industries which refine and use imported petroleum products from South America and the Middle East.

With approximately 6,700 sailboats scheduled to be built in 1979, Montreal has become Canada's sailboat manufacturing centre. In the building of dinghys and daysails (boats without sleeping accommodation) and under-30-foot keel boats designed for weekend regattas, Montreal monopolizes the market.

The Quebec furniture industry, one of the oldest manufacturing industries in Canada, employs 15,000 persons, with an expected sale in 1979 of approximately \$600 million. More than 65 per cent of all furniture bought by the people of Quebec is also made there.

Having gained a wide reputation in their field, two electronic groups in Montreal have contracted to outfit the United States of America's fleet of four Space Shuttles by 1984. Together with SPAR Aerospace Ltd. in Toronto, Ontario these groups will be supplying three Remote Manipulator Systems that will permit astronauts within the Shuttle to retrieve or move payloads in space.

### *Hydroelectric power*

Among Quebec's greatest assets is its immense hydroelectric potential. So far only a portion has been used. The basis of Quebec's great hydroelectric generating industry which serves the province and its neighbours, is the provincially-owned Hydro-Quebec. Hydro-Quebec's first major development project involved two rivers, the Manicouagan and the Outardes. This was in 1959. Manic 5, one of the generating stations built by Hydro-Quebec, was the site of the world's largest multiple-arch dam.

Another project began in the James Bay area in 1972. This will enable Hydro-Quebec to keep pace with consumer demand during the 1980s. The La Grande project entails constructing four major generating plants, huge dams, and a transportation and communications system.

### *Communications*

Since the seventeenth century, the St. Lawrence has been Quebec's major communications artery. It now is lined with a succession of ports which are in turn connected to inland centres by a comprehensive network of highways and railroads. Montreal is still Canada's most important port, located as it is on the St. Lawrence Seaway, which is one of the world's busiest water routes. Although the St. Lawrence River is frozen five months of the year,