THIRD "CANDU" SALE TO INDIA

Mr. Robert H. Winters, Minister of Trade and Commerce, recently announced the sale of a third Canadian-developed and designed nuclear-power plant of the CANDU type. The \$38.5-million sale to India will be financed through a loan from the Export Credits Insurance Corporation.

The ECIC loan will pay for Canadian capital, equipment, engineering and procurement services to double the capacity of India's first CANDU-type power station, now under construction at Rana Pratap Sagar, in the state of Rajasthan.

The development, known as the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project, includes two 200,000-kilowatt CANDU-type installations similar to the unit at Douglas Point, Ontario. The latest loan covers the second stage of the project. The first, undertaken with a \$37-million Canadian loan in April 1964, will be operational by 1971.

AECL-DAE CO-OPERATION

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited will collaborate with the Government of India in providing full technical information and engineering and consulting services to assist the Indian Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) with construction of the nuclear-power portion. The DAE will be the prime contractor responsible for the station's erection.

Announcing the signing of the financing agreement, Mr. Winters said the sale confirmed Canada's position as one of the leading international suppliers of nuclear-power stations. Canada he added, was one of the first countries to undertake international co-operative nuclear-power projects; the present sale was a gratifying endorsement of Canadian research and industry.

The foreign-exchange portion of this project is being financed under special credits allocated by the Canadian Government to India under the World Bank Aid-India Consortium. The repayment terms provide a credit period of 20 years, including five years' grace on repayment of principal. The rate of interest is 6 per cent per annum.

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WHEAT CROP

Canada's wheat crop in 1966, estimated at an all-time high of 844,400,000 bushels, reflects the combined effect of a record acreage seeded to wheat and the harvesting of record average yields an acre. The previous record - 723,400,000 bushels - was harvested in 1963. The increase of 195,500,000 bushels over the 1965 production of 648,900,000, offset by a wide margin the decline which occurred in opening stocks and, as a result, total supplies reached a peak level of 1,264,600,000 bushels. Supplies of the size indicated represent a 4 percent rise over the previous peak of 1,210,700,000 bushels (1963-64) and 9 per cent over the 1965-66 total of 1,161,900,000. After an allowance of 155 million bushels had been made for anticipated domestic requirements, supplies available for export and for carry-over during 1966-67 amounted to 1,109,600,000 bushels, 10 percent larger than the 1,005,000,000 in 1965-66.

SPECIAL BUOYS FOR BOATS TO EXPO

Department of Transport crews will start in April to install 300 special navigational markers along the main waterways leading to Montreal, in expectation of a large increase in small-boat traffic during Expo '67. The new buoys will be placed 4,000 to 6,000 feet apart along the river channels – on the Ottawa River between Calumet and Ottawa, on the St. Lawrence from Montreal to Sorel, and on the Richelieu from Sorel to Granby,

The unsinkable buoys which measure three feet in diameter and have a draught of about 28 inches, are anchored by ropes of such synthetic materials as nylon and polypropylene. Each has its signal located four feet above water, and is equipped with a rubber fender to absorb the shock of contact by floating objects.

Half the glass-reinforced plastic buoys will be black and half bright red. The black buoys will flash a green signal and the rest a red signal. These Xenon signals, which are visible to a distance of three miles at night, have never before been used in Canada and differ radically from the filament lights now in use. They flash five pulsating signals, lasting half a second, every three and a half seconds.

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RABIES CONTROL EXPERIMENT

In an attempt to reduce outbreaks of rabies in wildlife, mainly foxes, which are the reservoir of the disease in Ontario, an experimental programme will begin immediately in Carleton County by Kemptville Forest District, in co-operation with the Research Branch of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests.

The Department will put reproductive inhibitors into baits specially made to attract foxes during the spring breeding season, in areas where the animals are numerous. The baits will not be dangerous to humans or domestic animals. If consumed by domestic animals, they will temporarily disrupt the normal reproductive processes, but only for a short period.

After the fox-breeding season, which lasts about one month, all remaining baits will be removed.

Each year, local outbreaks of rabies occur in various parts of Ontario but, this winter, Carleton and York Counties have been very seriously affected by the disease. Red foxes are primarily responsible for the transmission of rabies to cats, dogs and other domestic animals.

The purpose of the control programme is to stabilize the existing fox population by limiting the numbers of young.

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