WATER-POWER RESOURCES OF CANADA

(Continued from P. 2)

Owing to lack of stream-flow data, Newfoundland's important water-power resources have been evaluated only tentatively. On the Island, while the rivers are short, topography and run-off conditions are favourable to power development; in Labrador, the Hamilton River has a high power potential which perhaps comprises the largest undeveloped single source of power in Canada. Considerable development has taken place on the Island, the larger developments having been constructed to serve the pulp-and-paper industry.

The water-power resources of the Yukon Territory itself are relatively small; but there exists the possibility of diverting the headwaters of the Yukon River through the Coast Mountains to utilize a high head near tidewater in northern British Columbia. In the Northwest Territories, although resources are of considerable extent, they are located so remotely as to limit their present commercial development to local mining uses and the supply of attendant settlements. Owing to the lack of native fuel and to transportation difficulties, water power is of special importance in the development of mining areas such as Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, and Mayo, Yukon Territory. The construction and management of electric power utilities on a commercial basis in the Yukon and Northwest Territories is the concern of the Northern Canada Power Commission under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Minister of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

GROWTH OF WATER-POWER DEVELOPMENT

Since the beginning of the present century, following the inception of long-distance transmission of electricity, water-power development in Canada has undergone a remarkable growth, the total installation of 177,323 h.p. at the end of the year 1900 being insignificant in comparison with the 18,356,148 h.p. installed by the end of 1956.

During the present century, the growth in the total of hydraulic installations in Canada has been continuous and the rate of growth has tended to accelerate. In the period 1900-1905, the average annual increase was only 56,000 h.p. but this was stepped up sharply in subsequent years, largely due to improvements in electrical transmission and the building of large central stations. During the period 1906-1922 inclusive, development proceeded at a fairly uniform rate of 150,000 h.p. per year. As a result of the heavier demand for electricity during the prosperous 1920's, the rate of installation increased appreciably in 1923 and continued at a nearly uniform rate of 377,000 h.p. per year for the period 1923-1935 inclusive. As large-scale hydro-electric projects take considerable time to complete, there is a lag between demand and completion of construction, the former responding quickly to general economic conditions. When the demand for power fell off during the 1930's, projects under way were carried to completion but the result of the economic depression is reflected in the low rate of installation during the years 1936-1939 inclusive. The great demand for power for war purposes accounts for the high average rate of increase of 481,000 h.p. per year during the period 1940-1943 inclusive. Few developments were undertaken in the later war years or in the immediate post-war period, so that only a small amount of new capacity came into operation from 1944 to 1947 inclusive. However, the results of the later post-war programme of construction are apparent in the amount of growth in the years 1948 to 1956, the average rate being about 874,000 h.p. per year. Present programmes of expansion indicate a continuation of this rate of growth for some years. It may be noted that in 1955, over 87 per cent of the total installation of water-power plants in Canada was of the central station type, as compared with 33 per cent in 1900.

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FAREWELL GIFTS: A walrus and a musk-ox, carved in the strong primitive style of the Eskimos, will grace the home of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, according to an announcement by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

These two outstanding examples of Canadian Eskimo art were presented as personal farewell gifts by Mr. and Mrs. Escott Reid to Mr. Nehru and to his daughter, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, who is his hostess, before Mr. and Mrs. Reid left New Delhi for Canada. Mr. Reid has been Canadian High Commissioner in India since November 1952.

The carvings are the work of Oshaweetuk, one of the great carvers from the Cape Dorset settlement on the southern coast of Foxe Peninsula, Baffin Island, N.W.T.

Oshaweetuk carved the walrus and the musk-ox from amphibolite, a fairly soft stone found on south Baffin Island and frequently used by Eskimo carvers. He chose as his subject two animals of fundamental importance to the Eskimo people and he has transmitted to his work a majestic bearing, indicative of the respect in which these two animals are held by the Eskimos. To attain greater realism the material for the tusks of the walrus and the horns of the musk-ox came from their living counterparts.

The carvings were purchased for Mr. and Mrs. Reid by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Mr. Reid gave Mr. Nehru the walrus and Mrs. Reid gave Mrs. Gandhi the musk-ox.