

When flooded, the reservoir will contain 1.165 million acre-feet of water, with a usable storage depth of 120 feet when full. The maximum depth of the water will be approximately 280 feet at the dam face.

The dam itself, of earth-fill construction, will be 300 feet high and 1,400 feet long. When completed, it will provide water-power for the operation of two 54,000-kilowatt generators. Construction must be finished by the autumn of 1973, but it is hoped that work will be finished a year earlier.

EDUCATIONAL JOBS FOR COMPUTERS

The National Research Council of Canada has entered the second phase of a long-range program of research and development in the field of computer-aided learning systems.

The main tool to be used in this effort to increase the productivity of Canada's educational systems is a new PDP-10 time-sharing computer purchased for \$431,000 from Digital Equipment of Canada Ltd., of Carleton Place, Ontario. It forms a centralized research facility that will be employed jointly by NRC, various educational bodies, other research institutions and government departments to develop methods by which computers can be used as learning aids. This will be done by storing course material, in either English or French, in computers and making it accessible to students, teachers and others at remote "on-line" terminals.

JOINT PROGRAM

System design, development of specialized terminal facilities and system programming have been undertaken by the Information Science Section of NRC's Division of Radio and Electrical Engineering, under the direction of J.W. Brahan. Universities and provincial educational bodies will develop and evaluate course material, test terminal equipment through actual use and provide programming assistance to NRC.

According to W.C. Brown, Head of the Section, "it should be clearly understood that our plans include no work on curriculum content — that is strictly a matter for educational authorities". Similarly, he adds, "the evaluation of the system as it evolves will be under the direction of competent educators".

Mr. Brown explains that each collaborating sector — education, industry and governments — will contribute "in the field appropriate to its professional competence". "An Associate Committee on Instructional Technology", he says, "has also been formed by the Council with national membership to develop guide-lines, to encourage and channel co-operative effort and to provide a forum for professional discussion."

The first phase of the project covered some 18 months of research. It involved the use of two small computers and three time-shared on-line terminals —

teletypes connected to the computer containing the course material. Lectures and conference papers have acquainted a large audience of professional educators in Canada with this initial NRC work, and the second phase of the program, involving co-operative, evaluative work with a selected group of educators, is now in progress.

COMPUTERS AND HEALTH

The Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. John Munro, recently announced approval of a \$9,050 federal grant for the Canadian Hospital Association to help finance a national symposium on computer applications in the health field.

"Considerable knowledge is available at present on computer application in the health field," Mr. Munro said. "It is important that persons who are associated with making policy decisions, as well as persons who are implementing projects, get an overall view of these developments, not only in Canada but in the United States and other parts of the world." "It is hoped that this symposium will provide a better understanding and preliminary guide-lines which will assist in making maximum use of computer capacity for the health and hospital field."

Experts on the use of computers in health treatment and services will take part in the symposium and will provide reports on computer developments and applications to health-related projects. The symposium speakers will come from Canada, the United States and European countries.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN CANADA

Enrolment in private elementary and secondary schools in 1968-69 came to 153,967. The number of schools (outside Quebec) was 490; teachers numbered 5,589. There were 74,481 day pupils and 10,030 boarders in the nine provinces, which had 41,924 male pupils and 42,587 female pupils, for a total of 84,511. Enrolment in Quebec private schools in 1966-67, the last year for which data are available, came to 80,070. This figure covers enrolment in a number of special schools in addition to the regular private schools. These include: private kindergarten and infant-care schools, family institutes and schools of family arts, classical colleges, art schools and nursing-aid schools. Enrolment in private schools has been decreasing steadily since 1963-64, when a high of approximately 198,000 was reached. Decreases have been most noticeable in Quebec, where a large number of private institutions have come to operate under the public regional school boards. Decreases observed for Ontario for 1967-68 and 1968-69 reflect the change in status from private to public of many of the province's French-language high schools.

Canada's export trade in agricultural products was \$1.4 billion last year — or about 11 per cent of total exports.