COLUMBIA RIVER DEVELOPMENT

Ratification by Canada of the Columbia River Treaty in September 1964, cleared the way for development of the Columbia River in Canada. Under the Treaty, Canada is required to build the Duncan Lake, Arrow and Mica storage dams on the Canadian portion of the river system. In return, Canada is reimbursed by the United States commensurate with the benefits of flow regulation and flood damage prevention accruing to the United States from the operation of these dams. Construction of Duncan Lake and Arrow dams is proceeding satisfactorily and it is anticipated that they will be completed before the scheduled dates of 1968 and 1969. Mica dam, the largest and most costly of the three, is scheduled for completion early in 1973. Completion of the storage reservoirs in Canada will facilitate "at-site" development of several million kilowatts of hydro-electric capacity in the Canadian portion of the basin.

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SKIING SURVEY

A Vancouver research firm is studying the vicinity of Whitehorn-Temple near Lake Louise, Banff National Park, Alberta, as a potential area for skiing. The survey follows a study made last year of the area's physical potential, which suggested designs for new skiing developments, including lifts, accommodation and other facilities.

Last winter 43,025 skiers visited the Lake Louise area, 33,218 of whom used the sedan lift and two poma lifts at Whitehorn, while 9,807 used two poma lifts at Temple Lodge.

A new visitors' centre, to include a commercial core and about 1,200 accommodation units, is being developed at lower Lake Louise, and proposals as a result of a recent call for tenders for the first of five hotel-motel developments, are under consideration. This development will help in accommodation for both summer and winter activities at Lake Louise.

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TUNA PLANT FOR CANADA

Ground was broken recently for Canada's first fully-integrated tuna-fishing and canning plant in Charlotte County, New Brunswick. The plant and the vessels to supply it are being built by the Canadian Tuna Corporation (1965) Limited, a subsidiary of Atlantic Sugar Refineries Company, Limited.

The total cost of the plant and equipment will be approximately $1,500,000, and tenders have been called for the construction of three combination trawler purse-seiner tuna vessels, which will cost about $6 million.

LATEST EQUIPMENT

Designed solely for processing and canning tuna, the plant will include the latest in equipment and facilities. It will have 60,000 square feet of space to handle 20 million pounds of tuna annually, and will process 100,000 cans a day. The cost of plant and equipment will amount to about $1,500,000. It is expected that 200 men and women from the surrounding area will be employed; the payroll, including ships' crews, is expected to be more than $1 million a year. The target date for the plant to be in operation is December.

BIGGEST SHIPS OF TYPE

The tuna vessels will be the largest of their kind in North America. Each will have a payload of 1,000 tons and each will be fitted with a purse-seine net 4,000 feet long and 400 feet deep. The weight of the nylon used in each net will be about 36 tons.

The new ships will be capable of fishing anywhere in the world and will operate for eight months of the year in southern Pacific waters, which are among the world's best tuna-fishing areas. Through the Panama Canal, these fishing grounds are actually 300 miles closer to St. Stephen than to Los Angeles. For the other four months of the year, the fleet will fish the North and South Atlantic.

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ECONOMIC PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR

(Continued from P. 2)

rate that took place in 1961 and 1962, and – given the relative stability in our costs and prices – with the increasing productivity and competitiveness of Canadian industry. We have enjoyed favourable export markets and Canadians have made vigorous efforts to cultivate them. We continue, however, to have a large balance-of-payments deficit on current account – something of the order of $1 billion in 1965, and it will probably be slightly more rather than slightly less, during the year ahead. This deficit requires that we secure a correspondingly large import of capital to finance it, year after year. We are fortunate indeed that our credit is good and we enjoy the confidence of investors in other countries as well as in Canada. A major responsibility of the Minister of Finance is to maintain the confidence of investors in Canada and in its ability to manage its affairs.

I am glad that, as Acting Minister of Finance during recent weeks, I have been able to work out arrangements with the United States to ensure that its own measures to protect its balance of payments do not prevent Canada having unrestricted access to the United States long-term capital market for the funds it needs to finance the deficit on its current account balance of payments. Access to the U.S. capital market is of vital importance to us. There is a danger, however, in too great a dependence on a large inflow of capital. I share the view of my predecessor...that Canadians should finance more of Canada's economic development themselves and that we should aim at a better balance in our current international payments. We must recognize, however, that, if Canada is to grow and develop in a satisfactory way, without large net imports of capital each year, we shall have to save more ourselves and forego some of the advantages of spending now.

(Over)