

It was as a journalist that Howe first became involved in politics. Two years after his purchase of the newspaper the *Novascotian* in 1827, Howe began his "Legislative Reviews", in which he discussed local and international public affairs with his readers, developing their awareness of and participation in the reform movements of the period. He also gave written and vocal support to the Reform Party during and after the election of 1830.

Having been a most eloquent spokesman for government reform as a journalist, Howe sought a more active role in which to implement his views. He entered provincial politics in 1836. His platform was that Nova Scotians should have a system of government responsible to the people.

Howe's election to the provincial assembly began a political career spanning 37 years during which he served as Speaker of the Assembly and member of the executive council (1841), Provincial Secretary (1848-1854) and (1860), and Premier (1860-1863). In 1867 he entered the Federal Government, accepting a Cabinet seat as Secretary of State for the Provinces. He continued in this office until his appointment in May 1873, as Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia.

Three weeks later, on June 1, 1873 Howe died suddenly at Government House in Halifax. The feelings of Nova Scotians were well summed up in the words of the *Halifax Morning Chronicle*, which said: "From 1827 until the day of his untimely death, 'Joe Howe' has been at the head and front of all great political changes in Nova Scotia."

Geological exploration maps available

The Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) released recently at its offices in Ottawa, Calgary and Vancouver geochemical maps showing the distribution of copper, lead, zinc, nickel, uranium, iron, manganese and potassium in lake sediment over a 36,000-square-mile area of the Northwest Territories south and east of Port Radium. These maps will also be for sale in Whitehorse and Yellowknife. The release of this information, one of the largest collections of exploration data ever made public in Canada, coincides with the start of the field season.

At the same time, GSC, a branch of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, released a publication that explains to industry and government agencies how the data were acquired and can be used. The information has many potential applications, ranging from mineral-resource estimation to prospecting, and to determining nature's own pollution levels.

Simultaneously with the results of the lake-sediment survey, the GSC is releasing on open file the results of an airborne high-sensitivity gamma-ray spectrometer survey. These relate to an area of 25,000 square miles, of which 18,000 overlap the area of the lake sediment work. The airborne measurements map the distribution of uranium, potassium and thorium. From a uranium exploration viewpoint, the ratio of uranium to thorium is particularly important. Experimental colour air photography is also now available

for 5,000 square miles adjoining Port Radium.

The lake-sediment analyses relate to material that has been carried into lakes from the surrounding country; the airborne survey measures what is in the surface of the ground beneath the aircraft. Presentation of results obtained by two substantially different methods enables exploration managers in industry to judge their relative merits.

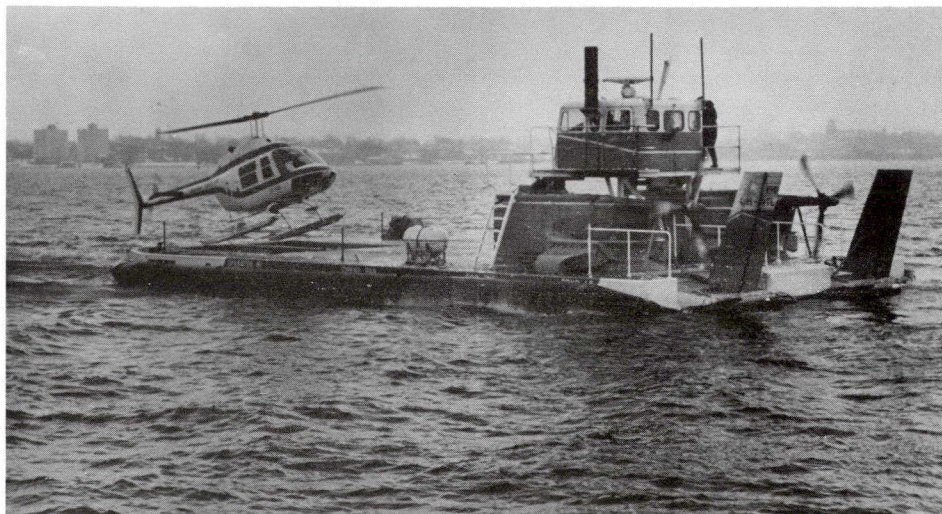
Power development in the Yukon

Minister of Northern Development Jean Chrétien has confirmed a recommendation of the Yukon Territory Water Board to build a \$15-million hydroelectric power plant in the Aishihik drainage basin about 100 miles northwest of Whitehorse.

The project, proposed by the Northern Canada Power Commission, will use the waters of the basin to generate up to 30 megawatts of power. This increased capacity will meet the expected demands for power in the southern Yukon.

"This decision has been taken without prejudice to Indian land claims," said Mr. Chrétien...I am satisfied that we have protected both the fish and the wildlife habitat of the region.

The Yukon Territory Water Board, established under the authority of the Northern Inland Waters Act, includes representation from six federal departments with interest in northern waters and three representatives nominated by the Commissioner-in-Council of the Yukon.



A Canadian Coast Guard helicopter lands on the deck of the heavy haul air-cushion vehicle Voyageur — a "first" for the Ministry of Transport. The Voyageur, a self-propelled cargo-deck that rides on a cushion of air, can travel across water, land, snow, ice and marshy areas. The craft, which measures, 65 feet by 36, has a maximum over-water speed of 50 mph, with a nominal payload capacity of 20 tons, plus five tons of fuel with a "trade-off" potential between the two. Voyageur is used to maintain aids to navigation, logistical resupply in the Arctic, for search and rescue, to carry freight in special areas and for various tasks for other government departments.