

nuclear power will probably rely on foreign technology if the nuclear option is to be adopted nationwide within the relatively short period of time given to achieve development goals.

Canada has experienced the same challenges in developing energy resources as China faces today, in many cases under similar climatic conditions, and so is in an excellent position to offer state of the art technology well suited to China's requirements. Efficient techniques for mining, processing and transporting coal, extensive hydro-electric systems and the wealth of experience Canadian oilmen have gained at home and abroad all have relevance for China as does the CANDU nuclear power system, the most advanced in the world.

Telecommunications is another field where Canada is a recognized leader around the world and particularly in China. Earlier this year a Canadian company won a major contract to supply 26 satellite earth stations to China, as well as to transfer manufacturing technology.

Canadian companies have also made sales of small and large private branch exchanges (PABX) to China which is currently showing keen interest in Canadian digital switching, fibre optics and domestic satellite communications technologies. Several Canadian companies intend to participate in a major communications exhibition in Beijing in November, 1984.

Given the almost identical geographical

area of both Canada and China, similar difficulties in transportation exist and Canada has developed solutions to many of the problems which China is encountering today.

Canadian STOL aircraft are operated by China's national carrier, CAAC. Canadian owned and maintained helicopters service offshore oil operations in the Yellow and South China seas.

Canada is working with China to explore the application of advanced computerized systems for railway traffic management and Canadian expertise in unit train transportation of bulk commodities is of interest to China as well. China also plans to expand her port facilities which might be served by Canadian expertise in port design, construction and bulk materials handling.

China has traditionally looked to Canada as a supplier of agricultural commodities, with wheat being the largest single export. Canada's technology in the fields of both agriculture and food processing are becoming of increasing interest to China. Since the 1960's, Canada has supplied China with agricultural machinery and the 1970's saw rapid gains in exports of feed and fertilizer materials. Several joint-venture projects in agriculture are currently under active consideration.

Canada's traditional role as a supplier of wood products to China, primarily lumber, pulp and paper, has developed in

closer cooperation on the technical side with Canadian companies assisting Chinese end-users to upgrade existing pulp and paper plants, improve wood utilization and undertake projects in afforestation, forest fire prevention and forest management.

Trade, of course, is a two-way street and while the size of the Canadian market is relatively small, Canada supports China's efforts to increase exports. Canada has afforded China special tariff treatment under the General System of Preferences, and has promoted technology transfer which will increase China's ability to export. Technology transfer seminars funded by the Canadian International Development Agency were held in both Beijing and Shanghai in 1983, and similar seminars are planned in future. China is hoping to increase her exports by holding a large Chinese commodities exhibition in Alberta this year.

The four Canadian Trade Commissioners based at the Canadian Embassy in Beijing and the Trade Commissioner for South China based in Hong Kong keep abreast of developments in the Chinese economy, and evolving business trends, and are available to assist Canadian businessmen further develop business relations with the PRC. ■

OPPORTUNITIES

Participants in Canadexpo '84

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