

NEW A-POWER STATION

Mr. Jean-Luc Pépin announced recently that the Atomic Energy Control Board had approved a site at Pointe aux Roches, Quebec, as suitable for a 250-megawatt (electrical) boiling-light-water nuclear-power station.

The Minister recalled that Premier Jean Lesage of Quebec and Mr. C.M. Drury, Minister of Industry, had announced on May 11 of last year that AECL and the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Quebec were considering the construction and operation in Quebec of a 250-megawatt (electrical) natural-uranium-fuelled, heavy-water-moderated, boiling-light-water cooled power reactor known as CANDU-BLW. Though this is not yet a formal project, the two organizations have submitted considerable information regarding their proposal so that the AECB may assess the suitability of the Pointe Aux Roches site from the point of view of health and safety.

This assessment has been carried out by the Board's Reactor Safety Advisory Committee, whose permanent members were joined by technical representatives of the Quebec Ministries of Health and Labour. As a result of the committee consideration, the Board advised AECL and Hydro Quebec that it was satisfied that a reactor of the general type indicated could be operated safely at the proposed site. More detailed information on the proposed design will be required, before any application for authorization to proceed with actual construction of the plan can be considered.

GIANT HELICOPTER DELIVERED

Transport Minister Pickersgill recently accepted delivery of a \$1,350,000 Sikorsky S-61N helicopter, the largest helicopter in civil use in Canada.

The amphibious, twin-turbine craft, which will be based at Prince Rupert, British Columbia, will serve the West Coast from Alaska to Port Hardy, on the northern tip of Vancouver Island. Its routine duties will include the delivery of supplies to 13 lighthouses and the maintenance of hundreds of unmanned lights and other navigational aids. It also will be available for search and rescue operations.

The new aircraft will replace a single-engined helicopter that has been in service in the area for four years. A twin-engined craft was considered necessary in the interest of safety, since, in the performance of their normal duties, pilots must fly more than 150 miles over the Pacific in an area of particularly bad weather.

The Sikorsky S-61N has a range of some 500 miles without refuelling and a top speed of 150 miles an hour. It can seat 26 passengers, and has a gross weight of 19,000 pounds. A sling for heavy equipment will carry up to 5,000 pounds. A rescue hoist with a capacity of 600 pounds will also be installed.

The DOT now has 21 helicopters serving in marine agencies and aboard Canadian coast-guard icebreakers. Four are based on the East Coast, three

on the West Coast, and the remainder serve the Quebec marine agency and the Eastern Arctic. Two helicopters operated by the Department of Transport are used for hydrographic work by the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

TOTEMS TO MARK FERRY ROUTE

British Columbia totem carvers are preparing markers along the land and water route from Vancouver Island to the northern parts of British Columbia. The carvers are well-known Indian artists of Vancouver Island and the mainland. The project is being carried out by native Indians, and totem poles will be erected in various communities from Victoria to Prince Rupert, and at British Columbia Ferry Authority terminals.

The poles being carved are approximately 12 feet high and 3½ feet in diameter at the base and, though the techniques of the native craftsmen vary, they are all working on the same basic design.

GRIZZLY BEAR DESIGN

The dominant figure on each pole will be a large upright grizzly bear. Smaller figures above, below, or held in front of the grizzly will be appropriate to the area where the pole is to be located. All totems will be completed and painted in appropriate colours for delivery to the erection site before June 1, 1966.

Dedication ceremonies will be arranged by the provincial centennial committee and local committees, and each carver will be present at the official unveiling of the completed pole. Twelve artisans and helpers are now applying their skill and knowledge, based on legends of the past, to mark the terminals of the northern extension of the British Columbia Ferry Authority system.

CANADA-U.S. POVERTY TALKS

Seven senior officials of the Canadian Government visited Washington recently at the invitation of the Office of the Economic Opportunity of the United States Government to discuss common approaches to planning and programming in the "war on poverty". The Canadian group was headed by R.A.J. Phillips, director of the Special Planning Secretariat, the agency responsible for co-ordinating anti-poverty programmes.

After talks with Sargent Shriver, director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, and senior officials in Washington, the group made a field study of anti-poverty projects. There was a visit to the University of Maryland to observe the training of volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), and to Camp Catoctin, a conservation job centre 65 miles from Washington, concerned primarily with training in forestry work and enlarging basic education. They also went to