

Nickel project in Indonesia

In a ceremony on March 31 on the island of Sulawesi, President Soeharto of the Republic of Indonesia dedicated the Soroako nickel project of P.T. International Nickel Indonesia, a majority-owned subsidiary of Inco Limited. Employees and some 80 guests from Jakarta and the provincial capital of Ujung Pandang attended as President Soeharto unveiled a plaque commemorating the occasion.

Dr. M. Sadli, Minister of Mines of the Republic of Indonesia, and Philip C. Jessup, Jr., managing director of P.T. Inco Indonesia, also participated in the dedication ceremony.

The capital cost of the entire project, which includes a 165-megawatt hydroelectric plant on the Larona River, is estimated at \$850 million. Construction of Stage I of the project was completed in 1976. Operational tests were conducted early this year, and the first shipments of nickel matte to Japan are scheduled for the summer. Stage I has a planned annual production rate of 35 million pounds of nickel in the form of nickel matte.

Second stage soon

Work on Stage II began in 1975 and is expected to be completed next year. It will raise the annual production level to about 100 million pounds of nickel. Inco has undertaken to purchase two-thirds of the total Indonesian production, some of which will be shipped for final refining to Inco's Canadian refineries and its refinery in Wales.

Financing

The project is being financed one-third with equity and two-thirds with debt. Six Japanese companies, which signed participation and marketing agreements with Inco in 1972, hold a minor equity interest in the project. Indonesians will be entitled to acquire up to 20 per cent of P.T. Inco's equity, following the start of production. The long-term debt financing is being provided by three international syndicates of commercial banks and through government and government-supported agencies in Canada, the United States, Australia, Japan, Britain, Norway and France. The Soroako nickel project dates back ten years to a decision by the Govern-

ment of Indonesia to call for tenders from international mining companies to explore and develop nickel deposits which were known to exist on the island of Sulawesi. Inco Limited was one of a dozen companies who responded to the invitation and was chosen to negotiate a contract in 1968.

Toronto scientists cited for exceptional potential

Three University of Toronto researchers have been chosen from among hundreds of outstanding young scientists from all over North America to receive financial support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation of New York.

Paul W. Brumer and Geraldine A. Kenney-Wallace, both physical chemists, and W. Richard Peltier, a physicist, are among the 95 recipients of Sloan Fellowships for Basic Research, and the only scientists at any Canadian university to be selected this year.

The fellowships are awarded annually on the basis of "exceptional potential to make creative contributions to scientific knowledge" in physics, chemistry, mathematics and neuroscience. The grants, averaging \$8,200 a year for two years, are to be used to support the research activities of the recipients.

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation has supported 1,406 scientists in 151 institutions since 1955, awarding a total of \$28,070,600.

Extensive survey uncovers many aspects of housing

The single-detached, three-bedroom bungalow is the most common type of accommodation in Canada, although multiple housing is more prevalent in some regions, particularly in the East, according to the largest survey of housing ever undertaken in Canada just released by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Survey of Housing Units, which was undertaken in 1974 by CMHC and Statistics Canada, compiles data from 23 metropolitan areas: Vancouver and Victoria in British Columbia; Calgary and Edmonton in Alberta; Regina and

Saskatoon in Saskatchewan; Winnipeg in Manitoba; Hamilton, Kitchener, London, St. Catharines, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Toronto and Windsor in Ontario; Chicoutimi, Montreal and Quebec City in Quebec; Charlottetown in Prince Edward Island; Saint John in New Brunswick; Halifax in Nova Scotia; St. John's in Newfoundland; and Ottawa/Hull in the national capital region (Ontario/Quebec).

Quality of housing, characteristics of households, room dimensions, costs, etc., are some of the items included in the survey, as well as housing problems faced by Canadians.

In Quebec and Montreal, apartments represented a higher percentage of all housing units than in any other cities. In other cities, such as Charlottetown, Chicoutimi and St. John's, semi-detached and duplex houses outnumbered single-detached homes.

Income levels of home-owners

Of those households with incomes more than \$22,500, 75 to 80 per cent owned their own homes, compared to 30 to 40 per cent of households with incomes less than \$5,000. Even the relatively high proportion of owners at the lower end of the income scale is misleading since it is inflated by the inclusion of elderly home-owners who have probably paid off their mortgages or had purchased their houses when prices were lower.

Adequacy of housing

The survey showed that the condition of housing stock in urban Canada is good. Nearly 90 per cent of the units were considered to be in good external condition, about 8 per cent were classed as fair and less than 3 per cent were considered poor.

Renters were more than twice as likely as owners to be living in housing conditions classed as poor. Nearly 12 per cent of rental units in the 23 areas was in poor condition, compared to just under 5 per cent of the owner-occupied units. Consequently, those cities with a high proportion of rental units had large numbers of dwellings in poor condition.

More than 10 per cent of the stock in Saint John, Chicoutimi, Montreal, Winnipeg, Sudbury, Regina, and Saskatoon was in poor condition while in Kitchener, London, St. Catharines,