

it surrenders too much economic power to the residents of other countries.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the twentieth century belonged to Canada. That may have been a bit of an exaggeration. Perhaps Sir Wilfrid, if he had lived, would have avoided some of the mistakes that have been made by those who followed in his footsteps. Nevertheless, I believe it is not too late for Canadians to be the ones to benefit the most from the great things that can be achieved in our country in the decades ahead. To do so, we shall have to be prepared to insist upon our national independence and all that this entails. Let's not settle for an easy life and second place. Let's be willing to make some hard decisions. Let's take full advantage of the tremendous future that can be ours if we have the courage and the will to take advantage of it. Let's do whatever we must do to be proud to call ourselves Canadians.

FOREST-FIRE FIGURES

Fire damage to Canada's forests continued to taper off in September as the end of the dry season approached, statistics released by the Department of Forestry indicate. The totals both for the season so far and for the month were still higher than those for last year at the same time.

The seasonal estimate showed damage to 1,820,000 acres caused by 6,314 fires, of which 187 occurred in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, affecting some 584,000 acres.

By the end of September 1963, there had been 6,891 fires, which damaged some 420,500 acres, including 31,500 burned over by 112 fires in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. During September

of this year, it was estimated that 33,450 acres had been damaged by 265 fires; most of the damage involved about 32,800 acres swept by five fires in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The tally for September 1963 showed some 5,300 acres damaged by 428 fires, of which five in the Yukon and Northwest Territories accounted for 850 acres.

In August 1964, damage was estimated at 201,000 acres burned by 523 fires; 31 of these fires occurred in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, where they devastated 190,000 acres.

MORE HEAVY WATER NEEDED

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited has issued invitations to five Canadian companies (British-American Oil, Deuterium of Canada, Dynamic Power, Imperial Oil and Western Deuterium) to submit proposals for the further production of heavy water in Canada. Alternate proposals have been requested for plant capacities of 200 and 300 tons per annum. While no undertaking has been given that any proposal will be accepted, the proposals may be predicated on the assumption that the sale of heavy water produced over a five-year period would be underwritten by the Federal Government. The proposals are to be received by AECL not later than January 29, 1965. Commencement of the delivery of heavy water is required on or before July 1, 1967.

The heavy water produced by the plant of Deuterium of Canada Limited now under construction at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, will be insufficient to meet the increasing need for heavy water. The requirements of the new Ontario Hydro 2 x 500,000 kilowatt nuclear-power station cannot be met in time from the present Glace Bay plant.