

NELSON POWER PROJECT

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited has announced the selection of the English Electric Company Limited to supply the initial power-conversion equipment, valued at about \$35 million, for the transmission system to be established on the Nelson River.

The power-transmission line, 600 miles in length, will supply hydroelectric power from the Nelson River to southern Manitoba. It will be the highest-voltage transmission system in the world and is estimated to cost \$170 million.

The initial order of equipment, to handle 810,000 kilowatts of the 3-million kilowatt transmission system, will consist of three modules of 270,000-kilowatt capacity, employing 150-kilovolt, six-anode, 1,800-ampere, mercury arc valves.

EXPORT POSSIBILITY

The Federal Government signed an agreement last month with the government of Manitoba to construct and own the transmission line because of the potential for Manitoba and adjoining provinces and because of the possibility of exports. The Government assigned to Atomic Energy of Canada Limited the responsibility for construction of the transmission system.

The total cost of the first phase, including transmission facilities, will exceed \$400 million. Further development will depend on the growth of regional markets in Canada and the United States.

* * * *

PILOT SHORTAGE STUDY

The Department of Transport is studying the aviation industry's problem of obtaining a sufficient number of pilots to keep pace with the growing demand of air transport: within the next decade it is estimated the number of pilots required by Canada's six major scheduled carriers will have increased by almost 200 per cent.

Three studies have so far been made by the Department to assess the effectiveness of current programmes of federal assistance for flying training, and to consider alternatives. While no decisions have yet been made, some programme changes seem inevitable.

The upsurge in Canadian air transport is part of a universal trend that is causing concern in many countries over the availability of pilots to operate an increased number of aircraft. Several countries and some airline companies have started training schemes to ensure that pilots will be available. North America, so far, has enough pilots, but there are indications that in the future there might not be sufficient.

It is estimated that, by 1967, the total commercial pilot population in Canada will be between 9,200 and 12,200 and, to fill this requirement, an average of more than 1,100 pilots need to be trained each year.

Under the current programme of assistance for flying training, started in 1949, the Federal Govern-

ment pays \$100 to each person who obtains a private flying licence and \$100 to the school that trained him. By the end of 1966, subsidies had been made to a total of 28,156 persons at a total cost of more than \$5.5 million.

No recommendations have yet been made, but the Department of Transport hopes to develop plans soon to meet the prospect of a shortage of pilots.

* * * *

TRADE COMMISSION CHIEFS

The Department of Trade and Commerce recently announced the appointment of six new heads of post in the Trade Commissioner Service who will take over their duties in September.

John A. Stiles of Ottawa has been appointed Canadian Minister (commercial) in Tokyo; Harry J. Horne of Shaunavon, Saskatchewan, has been named Canadian Commercial Counsellor in Sydney, Australia; G.O. Roger Rousseau, a native of Trois Pistoles, Quebec, has been appointed Canadian Minister-Counsellor (commercial) in Paris; A. Worden Evans of Kingston, Ontario, has been appointed Canadian Commercial Counsellor in New Delhi; Roger R. Parlour, born in Adams, Massachusetts, has been appointed Canadian Commercial Counsellor in Bonn; and Claude T. Charland of Quebec City, has been named Canadian Commercial Counsellor in Brussels.

FUNCTION OF TCS

As the main overseas arm of the Department of Trade and Commerce, the Trade Commissioner Service is responsible for promoting Canada's trade and protecting Canadian commercial interests in markets abroad. The trade commissioners act as export-market consultants. They obtain market and credit information, bring foreign buyers in contact with Canadian sellers, recommend suitable agents for Canadian exporters, and supply current information on export opportunities, terms of payment, tariffs, and import and exchange controls.

The Trade Commissioner Service operates 70 offices in 49 countries.

* * * *

FORCES RECRUITING UP

Recruiting in Canada's Armed Forces for the first six months of 1967 was 70 percent higher than in the same period last year. There were 7,402 enlistments from January to June - an increase of 3,062. In June 1967, there were 959 enlistments - an increase of 335 over the figure for June 1966.

A breakdown by services shows that there were 179 enrolments in June 1967 in the Royal Canadian Navy (up 36 over the figure for June last year); 351 in the Army (an increase of 33) and 429 in the Royal Canadian Air Force (an increase of 266).

The total strength of the Forces in June was 105,899 - Navy, 18,320, Army 42,426, and Air Force 45,153.