

## NELSON RIVER POWER DEVELOPMENT

Prime Minister L.B. Pearson announced recently that the Federal Government had agreed in principle to participate with the Government of Manitoba in developing the vast hydro-power resources of the Nelson River in northern Manitoba. The first phase will include the construction of a power site at Kettle Rapids and the installation there of 855,000 kilowatts of generating capacity, the diversion of part of the flow of the Churchill River into the Nelson River system near Thompson, Manitoba, the construction of works at the outlet of Lake Winnipeg to control its level and outflow, and long high-voltage transmission-lines from Kettle Rapids southwest to the neighbourhood of Winnipeg. The total cost of this initial development will exceed \$300 million.

The Federal Government will construct, finance, and own the high-voltage transmission-lines required to move the Nelson River power to Winnipeg and, when markets are developed, to the international and interprovincial boundaries. The cost of the planned high-voltage lines from Kettle to Winnipeg and the ancillary equipment required has been estimated at about \$120 million. The line will be leased to the Manitoba Hydro at yearly rates assessed on the basis of the number of kilowatt hours of energy transmitted, which will suffice over a period of approximately 50 years to repay with interest the

investment made in the line.

### POSSIBILITY OF EXPORT

"The Federal Government's participation", said, Mr. Pearson "will ensure that this power site of such great importance does not remain undeveloped only because it is located in a province in which the market for power is still too limited for the province alone to bear the full burden of financing its development. The potential benefits to Canada include a reasonable possibility of the export of power to the midwestern United States and the possible sale of low-cost power to Saskatchewan and Ontario through inter-connections between the utilities of the three provinces. Although the Nelson Development can only be achieved in successive steps, the ultimate development will be of the magnitude of 5,000,000 kilowatts.

"The Government of Manitoba and of Canada will proceed as soon as possible to negotiate the necessary federal agreement, following which the Federal Government will seek the approval of Parliament for it."

The Prime Minister said that the power resources of the Nelson River had been surveyed at a cost of \$4 million as a "50-50" joint federal-provincial undertaking over the past three years under the direction of a joint Nelson River programming board.

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## EIGHT-YEAR PEAK IN IMMIGRATION

Mr. Jean Marchand, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, recently announced that immigration to Canada in 1965 had totalled 146,758, an increase of 30 per cent over the figure of 112,606 for 1964. "This heartening increase shows Canada's success in attracting large numbers of skilled, educated and otherwise-qualified people, despite world-wide competition for skills," Mr. Marchand observed. "It reflects the increased efficiency of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, resulting from an extensive reorganization, and is a tribute to the success of increased promotional and recruiting activities abroad."

"It is significant," the Minister added, "that, of immigrants who entered the labour force, 67 per cent were in the more skilled categories. This compared with 59 per cent in these categories in 1964. This demonstrates that Canada is attracting persons with the skills so badly needed now for the continued economic growth of the country."

Immigration to Canada in 1965 was the highest since the post-war peak year of 1957, a time of the most unusual movement of people owing to international crises, such as Suez.

### MAIN SOURCES

The following countries made the largest contribution to the increase: Britain 39,857 (1965), 29,279 (1964); Italy 26,398 (1965), 19,297 (1964); United States 15,143 (1965), 12,565 (1964); Germany 8,927

(1965), 5,992 (1964); Portugal 5,734 (1965), 5,309 (1964); France 5,225 (1965), 4,542 (1964).

Immigration from the United States increased 21 per cent from 1964 and was the highest in any one year since the end of the Second World War.

Ontario and Quebec continued to receive the major share of Canada's immigrants. Ontario received 79,702 or 54 per cent, Quebec 30,346 or 21 per cent, followed by British Columbia with 18,502 or 13 per cent, the three Prairie provinces with 14,646 or 9 per cent, and the Atlantic provinces with 3,427 or 3 per cent.

The total movement was divided almost equally between labour force entrants and non-workers - 74,195 workers and 72,563 dependents or non-workers.

### OCCUPATIONAL CLASSIFICATIONS

Of the workers, 1,449 were managerial; 16,654 professional and technical, 9,919 clerical, 7,587 service and recreation, 2,660 commercial and financial, 2,362 agricultural, and 24,167 manufacturing, mechanical and construction. The Department of Immigration classed 7,112 as being in labouring trades, the majority of these entering Canada on the basis of sponsorship by close relatives where occupational proficiency is not a major factor in determining admissibility.

"These figures show that immigration has once again made a substantial contribution to Canada's growth," Mr. Marchand commented. "Our officers overseas report continued keen interest in Canada and the opportunities here, and we anticipate continued success in our immigration programme in 1966."