

CHURCHILL FALLS

Since 1967, Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation Limited has been working at the site of the 5,225,000-kilowatt Churchill Falls power-station in Labrador – the largest civil project under construction in the western hemisphere.

This giant power-plant is destined to replace the Gordon M. Shrum station of British Columbia Hydro as the largest underground station in the world. In 1972, it will begin generating power from its location 16 miles downstream from the Churchill Falls on the Churchill River (not to be confused with the betterknown river of the same name in Manitoba), more than 700 miles northeast of Montreal. When it is completed in 1976, it will contain 11 units of 475,000 kilowatts each operating under a rated net head of 1,025 feet.

Harnessing of the great power potential of the Churchill River, which is the main stream draining the saucer-shaped Labrador plateau, has been a cherished dream of power-developers for many years. Before the dream could become a reality, however, the Quebec North Shore & Labrador Railway, providing access to within 113 miles of Churchill Falls, had to be built, remarkable progress had to occur in extra-high-voltage transmission technology, and Eastern Canada's need for power had to increase enormously.



Underground power-house