

CANADA-JAPAN NUCLEAR FUEL PACT

An agreement providing for the exchange of technical information and collaboration on heavy-water reactors between Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) and the Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corporation (PNC) of Japan was signed last month in Tokyo.

The agreement, which will last for five years, was signed for AECL by the company president J.L. Gray, and for PNC by its president G. Inoue. The signing took place during the 1971 Japan-Canada Conference on Atomic Energy, which was attended by Mr. J.J. Greene, Canada's Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and Mr. W. Hiraizumi, Minister of Science and Technology and Chairman of the Japan Atomic Energy Commission.

The agreement originated in a common interest in power reactors moderated with heavy water and cooled with boiling light water. In this context, AECL has built and is commissioning the Gentilly nuclear-power station (250 megawatts) on the St. Lawrence River, near Trois-Rivières, and PNC is building the Fugen nuclear-power station (165 megawatts) near Tsuruga.

It has been agreed that there be an exchange of information on such topics as reactor physics, boiling-water heat transfer and hydraulics, safety studies, zirconium alloys, fuels, and control and instrumentation. This collaboration is expected to contribute much to the development of heavy water reactors in both countries.

NORWEGIAN TRANSPORT VISITORS

At the invitation of the Federal Government, the Transport and Communications Committee of the Parliament of Norway, led by Mr. Peter Kjeldseth Moe, Member of Parliament, visited Canada last month to look at Canadian transportation policies and problems.

The committee members met informally with federal, provincial and municipal authorities concerned with the broader aspects of transportation. They were briefed by Quebec officials on integrated-transportation planning for the Montreal region and on the Montreal Metro system, on which they took a short trip. They then met with the Ministry of Transport's new Montreal airport project team to learn something of the social and environmental impact of the new Ste-Scholastique airport on the area which it will serve. The next day they visited the site of the Ste-Scholastique airport before returning to the International Civil Aviation Building in Montreal to be addressed by Mr. B. Grinde, the Norwegian representative to the International Civil Aviation Organization.

In Ottawa, at the Ministry of Transport's headquarters, the delegates were briefed on Canadian transportation policy, on northern airport development

and on Canada's position in the realm of short-take-off-and-landing (STOL) aircraft systems development.

The group, accompanied by the Norwegian Ambassador to Canada, Mr. T. Oftedal, were guests at an informal reception and lunch at the Parliamentary Restaurant. Surface transportation, including such aspects as mass transit, rapid transit, commuter trains and railways, bus, automobile and urban transportation in general were discussed later the same day.

In Toronto, talks were held on integrated transportation planning for the Toronto region by provincial and municipal authorities. A ride on Toronto's GO train was included in their activities.

A visit to the DeHavilland Aircraft Company plant at Downsview, where a demonstration of STOL aircraft took place, rounded out the program.

NAC ORCHESTRA TOURS

G. Hamilton Southam, Director-General of the National Arts Centre, has announced that the NAC orchestra will tour the United States and Europe during the coming seasons.

The orchestra will make its New York debut at the Lincoln Center on February 27, where, in the Alice Tulley Hall, it will play music by Mozart, Ravel, Beethoven and the Canadian, Harry Somers. Mario Bernardi will conduct, and will also be soloist and conductor in Ravel's G Major Piano Concerto.

The orchestra will tour the eastern United States in November 1972.

EUROPEAN ENGAGEMENT

The opening concert of the European tour will take place on May 25, 1973 in Bath Abbey in England, where the orchestra has been specially invited to inaugurate the world famous Bath Festival. The concert will feature the world première of a new work written for the occasion by Canadian R. Murray Schafer. The concert will be televised throughout Britain by the British Broadcasting Corporation.

SECOND RECORDING

To mark the NAC orchestra's Montreal debut on October 7, RCA will release the orchestra's second record, conducted by Mario Bernardi. The disc includes one of the orchestra's most brilliant showpieces, Prokofiev's *Classical Symphony in D*, and also features four little-known arias by Haydn, sung by the Canadian husband and wife duo, Léopold Simoneau and Pierrette Alarie. The record also contains *Evanescence*, by the young Canadian composer André Prévost, who was born in L'Original, near Ottawa; the work is dedicated to the late Jean-Marie Beaudet.

From January to August this year, one in four passenger cars sold in Canada was an import.