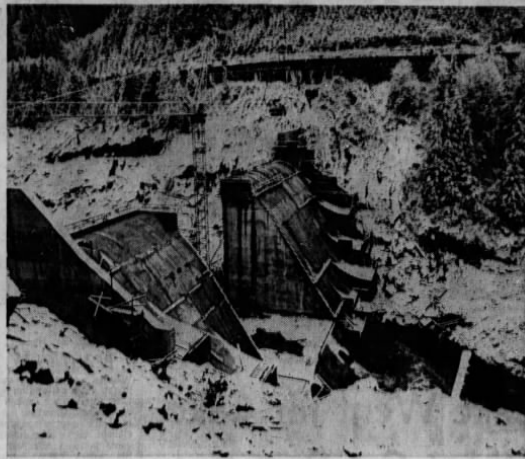


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Workers jubilantly mark 'hole-through' in 3½-mile tunnel Friday afternoon while work above ground progresses on Elliott Dam.



For \$30M (and a Few Snags) The Island Gets Extra Power

By DOUG MacRAE

Despite delays in machinery delivery, and a three-month construction stoppage last summer, B.C. Hydro's \$30 million Jordan River re-development project is headed toward completion on schedule next fall.

A major part of the three-year project — a 3½-mile tunnel to carry water to Hydro's new powerhouse — got over its longest period when excavation from both ends met successfully as planned Friday.

The project will expand hydro-electric capacity at Jordan River, 45 miles west of Victoria, into a major supply source for Vancouver Island. The new plant will heat electrical output from the present 26,000 kilowatts to 150,000 kilowatts — one-tenth of the province's total supply. For \$30 million, Hydro will get the tunnel, and:

- A new concrete dam, 117 feet high, to hold water for channeling into the new tunnel;

- A new powerhouse, replacing the plant built in 1911, to feed power into the island system at peak-use periods;

- Rehabilitation of two existing dams, Bear Creek and diversion, to allow freer passage of flood waters and debris, as well as general remedial work;

- A mile-long penstock tube, to take water from the tunnel to the powerhouse, 10 feet in diameter and built of two-inch-thick steel.

As a result of the project, Victorians will not get:

- Recreation facilities at Bear Creek and diversion reservoirs. Hydro will not clear "snag" timber from these basins of water while they are drained during work on the project, although such clearing would make the

The Good News is a Few Dams and a Long Tunnel, the Bad is Stump-Clogged Reservoirs

water available for swimming, skiing and boating.

- Revenue from construction of the penstock. After a fiasco in bidding procedure (no fault of Hydro's), the contract for \$15 million went to a Yugoslav firm;

- Permanent freedom of dependence on the underwater power cable from the mainland. The new system will provide power only during peak-use periods as well as a secondary source of energy whenever surplus water is available.

- A lasting boom in Jordan River. Construction has used up to 400 men, but the completed plant will be remote-controlled; eventually, there will be no one at all in Jordan River employed in the power station.

The original Jordan River power plant, now in park-like surroundings, was considered a major engineering feat when it first began producing power in 1912.

It will be obsolete when the new project goes into operation. Machinery will be sold at scrap prices, and the five-mile open wooden flume used to carry water to its generators will be allowed to fall apart.

The new dam is to be named after a Hydro employee who worked for the company for much of the old installation's useful period. J. M. Jack's Elliott, 305 King George Terrace, was with the company 29 years.

The cable from the main-

land and Jordan River station will provide all power needed for the lower half of the island. The northern half is supplied by the three John Hart powerhouses on the Campbell River.

Project manager for re-development is one of Hydro's top dam-builders, W. S. Walker, who is quoted by the Arrow Dam on the Columbia River to ahead-of-time completion in 1962.

Walker predicts similar success at Jordan River, despite labor and delivery problems.

"It's a relatively small job," says Walker. "The dam is being built on excellent rock, and work on the tunnel can be brought up to date."

The original schedule called for the tunnel to be panned through six months ago.

Walker brought with him to Jordan River an economic safety record in dam construction. He also brought his safety officer from the earlier project, Cliff Robertson.

Heading into Jordan River, the team had registered 11 million man-hours of work without loss of life or limb. The re-development here will add another two million man-hours, and so far there hasn't been a serious accident, despite drilling, blasting and dam construction work involving perilous work situations.

"Safety is something that just doesn't just happen," says Robertson.

"You have to work at it, like marriage or making a

fortune. Even then there's no guarantee."

He aims for teamwork. Each contractor on the site has his own safety man, and Robertson, besides bounding the contractors into adhering to safety rules, tries to get a cooperative safety spirit working throughout the project.

Workers have enough going for them to make a long, safe life worth striving for.

On-site living conditions are comfortable, meals are sumptuous, wages are high when electricity in the tunnel are making as much as \$20,000 a year.

CHILDREN'S FUND OPENS MONDAY

With films and slides fresh from the scene of action, Dr. Lotta Hiltzmanova, executive director of the Unitarian Service Committee of Canada, will open the annual Times-sponsored campaign for the Children of Asia Fund Monday at a public meeting at 2:30 in St. John's Church Hall, 1811 Quadra St.

It will be the 15th year in which the Victoria Daily Times has sponsored the local drive, part of a nation-wide fund-raising campaign which has provided millions of dollars to aid adults and children, chiefly in Asian countries.

India and Korea have been major recipients of aid in past years, the accent being on schools, hospitals, income-producing assistance, individuals, and emergency food supplies.

Dr. Hiltzmanova will arrive in the city Sunday and leave Wednesday. Contributions to the fund will be listed daily in the Times during the campaign which will extend until the year-end. Total collected last year was \$12,570.

Centennial Aid Expected To Lift Sagging Economy

Celebrations marking the entry of British Columbia into Canadian Confederation will put millions of dollars into a sagging economy.

B.C. Centennial Committee chairman L. J. Wallace said in an interview the indications are that communities planning permanent commemorative projects will spend far more than the approximate 14 million available from the provincial and federal governments in grants.

Commemorative undertakings alone will provide for a minimum \$2.50 per capita, including the number earmarked for local bodies, for \$2.2 million in total.

Based on past experience, said Wallace, five times that amount could find its way into the economy, the government grants merely printing the pump for other capital spending, tourism and spending by private industry.

Waller absorbing the cost of administration, which is limited to 40 cents a head, municipalities or local committees put up a minimum 60 cents per resident toward a lasting project as part of the \$2.60.

But communities so far are indicating to provincial authorities they wish to contribute four, five and six times the minimum.

Wallace was asked why it is necessary to have yet another centennial celebration after

the province of B.C. had marked 100-year anniversary of various events four times since 1948.

"Quite easy, because we think 1971 was a most important date," when British Columbia joined Canada and created a nation from sea to sea, and this after all was what the Fathers of Confederation had dreamed.

Is it political at a time when the economy is down, unemployment up, to be spending that kind of money?

"I don't think there is anything political about it. I think it's good economics, too," Wallace said. "A centennial is both a morale-booster and good economically."

Manager Joins Swing To Region

The trend toward regionalism is "the most exciting development" in urban affairs, says city manager Dennis Young, who will become executive director and secretary-treasurer of the Capital Regional District on Feb. 1.

Young's appointment came Friday afternoon after he and another applicant appeared before the regional board for final interviews.

There were 35 applicants. The post pays \$4,500 a year, which means Young takes a \$1,500 pay cut.

Asked today if he had a pre-announced dissatisfaction with the present city council, Young said:

"None at all," and added he served seven years as city manager had been "rewarding."

Over the long-run, however, regional government will come to dominate the municipal scene, Young said.

"I do feel the more significant advances in the urban scene lie at the regional level."

Young will take the place of Bill Long who has been with the board since 1967. Long will take up a similar position with the Municipal Financing Authority.

Young, 47, joined city hall staff as an accountant in 1950, then rose to become comptroller-treasurer and later assistant city manager.

He served as treasurer and commissioner of finance for Hamilton before returning to Victoria as city manager in 1963.



YOUNG ... "exciting trend"

BARRELS OUT FOR PATIENTS

Red barrels have been placed in local shopping centres and churches where the public can leave gifts for patients in mental hospitals.

Cash donations may be sent to the CMHA office at Room 207, 3121 Cook.

Gifts go to patients, former patients, boarding home residents, and young people in residential treatment centres



Arthur Mayse...