

ONTARIO HYDRO'S NEW NIAGARA DEVELOPMENT

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Books IN REVIEW
 RETURN IN DECEMBER
 by Cora Jarrett

GREATEST POWER DEVELOPMENT IN COUNTRY AT NIAGARA FALLS

Again, the famed Niagara River is the stage for a drama of power development that was last enacted more than 30 years ago with the installation of the Queenston-Chippawa Generating Station, later renamed Sir Adam Beck-Niagara G.S. No. 1 in honor of the Commission's first chairman.

Today, that drama is being re-enacted on a scale never known before in history of Ontario Hydro. It is the construction of the greatest hydro-electric power development ever undertaken in Canada by a utility—Sir Adam Beck-Niagara G.S. No. 2, located six miles below the renowned cataracts of the Niagara on the side of the precipitous 300-foot cliff of the Lower Niagara River Gorge, and just a stone's throw from the older plant.

Begun in the spring of 1951, work on this tremendous \$300 million enterprise for the people of this Province is moving ahead at an accelerated rate. It is estimated that the first stage of 700,000 horsepower (seven units) will be ready for initial service (four units) in 1954, with all seven units operating in 1955. The second stage of 500,000 horsepower (five units) will be in operation during 1958 and 1957. Upon completion, Sir Adam Beck No. 2 will have an installed capacity of 1,200,000 horsepower, comprised of 122 giant generating units.

One of the major features of the development is the construction of two of the largest underground tunnels in the world. These tunnels, each 5 1/2 miles long, will divert the water from the Upper Niagara River under the City of Niagara Falls. The tunnels will emerge to the surface on the other side of the city where they will empty into a 2 1/2-mile open-cut canal bigger in depth and width than the Suez.

This canal will have a capacity of 40,000 cubic feet of water per second to feed the penstocks or pipes leading to Sir Adam Beck-Niagara Generating Stations No. 1 and No. 2.

Completion of Sir Adam Beck-Niagara G.S. No. 2 will probably mark the last power development on the Canadian side of the Niagara River.

On the United States side of the river a total of 500,000 horsepower has been developed to date. None of these plants now in operation develops the full head available on the river from above Niagara Falls to the level of Lake Ontario. Following ratification of the Niagara Diversion Treaty by the United States Senate in October, 1950, the way was cleared for Ontario Hydro to construct its Sir Adam Beck-Niagara Generating Station No. 2. At the same time, the new treaty will enable the United States to build up its generating capacity

on the river to 2,107,000 horsepower.

The great natural beauty of the Falls has been safe-guarded by provisions in the Niagara Diversion Treaty to ensure a sufficient flow of water over both cataracts. In addition, the Niagara Diversion Treaty requires that remedial work be carried out in the Upper Niagara River Rapids. Without this work, 90 per cent of the river flows over the Horseshoe Falls, and 65 per cent of this amount passes over the middle third of the cataract, leaving the flanks bare during periods of low water in the river. Remedial work will distribute the water more evenly over 2,600-foot crestline, lessening erosion at the centre, and preserve the awe-inspiring beauty of the Falls.

The average annual flow of the Niagara River is about 204,000 cubic feet of water per second. The treaty requires that during the daytime hours of late spring, summer and early fall, at least 100,000 cubic feet per second of water must pass over the cataracts. During the night throughout the full year, as well as the daytime hours of late fall, winter and early spring, only 50,000 cubic feet per second must pass over the Falls.

This will allow Canada and the United States to use greater amounts of water for power generation under normal conditions, particularly during the late fall and winter when power demands are high.

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A book that leaves the reader agape, impolite as that is. The almost weird love story has on its own two feet—yet Cora Jarrett has decided to treat it most unusually. She has her first-person singular who tells the story, the wife of a psychologist, almost ramble through the book in a manner that seems doubtful for even the most deviating feminine conversationalist. "That was the night when... but first I must go back to... but before he told us, he left..."

The constant suspense becomes almost tiring. But this should not deter a reader. It is indeed worth working through the ins and outs of the plot to arrive at the most successful ending not satisfying as far as the story goes, but immensely successful as story-telling.

Some books read straight ahead, and others try the flashback. But the devious routes of the unfolding of this plot are rather uncalculated. The doctor's wife speaks very directly to the writer; she writes what her husband thinks of the story so far. If she had been more impersonal, writing stream of consciousness prose more like William Faulkner, the style would be more easily understood.

But again, this is no reason to criticize the plot, which is cleverly contrived and captivating. It's always interesting to read about psychologists these days, and the practising doctors in "Return in December" have plenty of material.

But the realm of psychiatry is transcended, and the reader must be a good one to keep the threads of details in his mind, and, in the end, a more superior one not to feel quite lost.

The return in December was to a house which itself will interest readers. The main feature of the great home is a free standing staircase. "Each of the treads was anchored into the curving wall at one end, but at the other end was free, supported only by the corresponding rising curve of a magnificent rib of bronze. And it was built without risers between its thick shining treads of oak, so you could look clear through it from front to back, or the other way, as easily as if it had been a sumptuous ladder. The illusion of freedom and lightness about it was almost magical..." This staircase plays a part in the drama.

ANONYMOUS FROM ALOFT

Many towns and cities which would like to grow bigger are missing a bet when they conceal their identity from passing planes, remarks the Financial Post. They don't need to give the overhead passengers all the details on what days the local service clubs meet or whether theirs is the prettiest town in Canada. But they might at least have the name of the place laid out on some hillside, where it can be seen and identified a mile or so up. Lacking a suitable hillside, the centre of the local race track or football field would make an excellent aerial billboard.

Overhead, who knows, some representative of a company may be looking for a place to build a new plant. The name he sees below may be the first link in the establishment of a new business that will mean growth, and employment and more prosperity.

Before 1830 Fort Frances, Ont., was a trading post known as Rainy Lake. It was named after pioneer Lady Frances Simpson.

Mystery Precedes B.Y.P. Corn Roast

An air of mystery filled the Young People of the Baptist Church as they gathered for their regular weekly meeting on Friday evening August 22. There had been speculation as to the nature of the meeting, and some even predicted a corn roast, but not until all had gathered at the church, was it made known what was going to take place.

The events of the evening took the form of a mystery hunt, where each group going in a separate car had to solve clues in order to arrive at the next place, where they received a prize and the clue for the next stop.

During the evening they called at different homes, a garage, restaurant and finally ended at the home of Mr. and Mrs. West on the 1st line where the evening ended with a delicious corn roast.

Q
How Can I Start An Investment Programme?

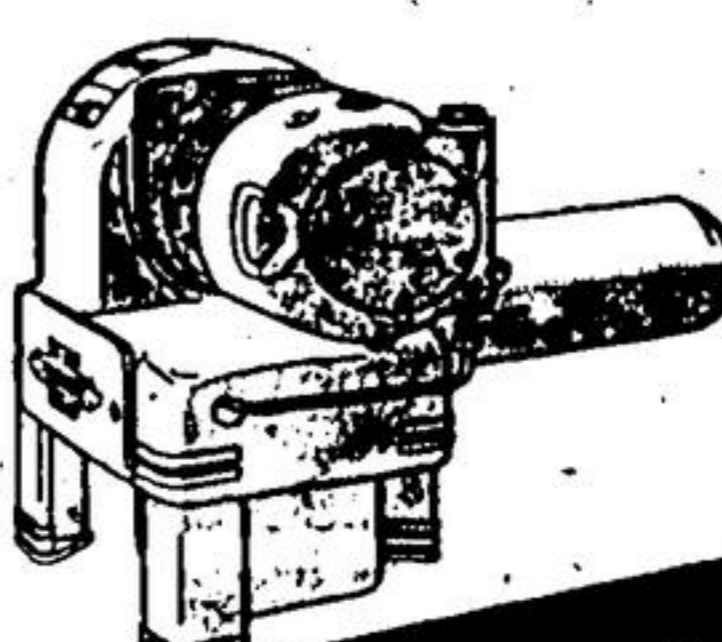
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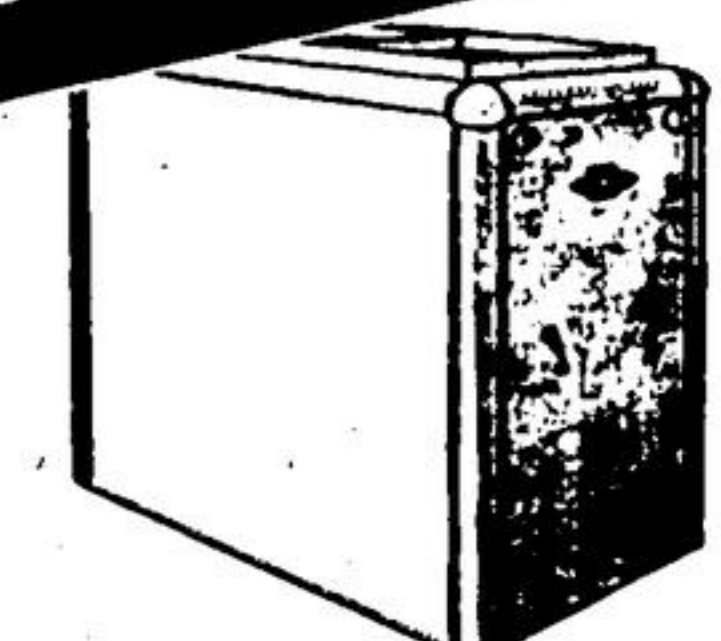
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