

CECIL A. CARR

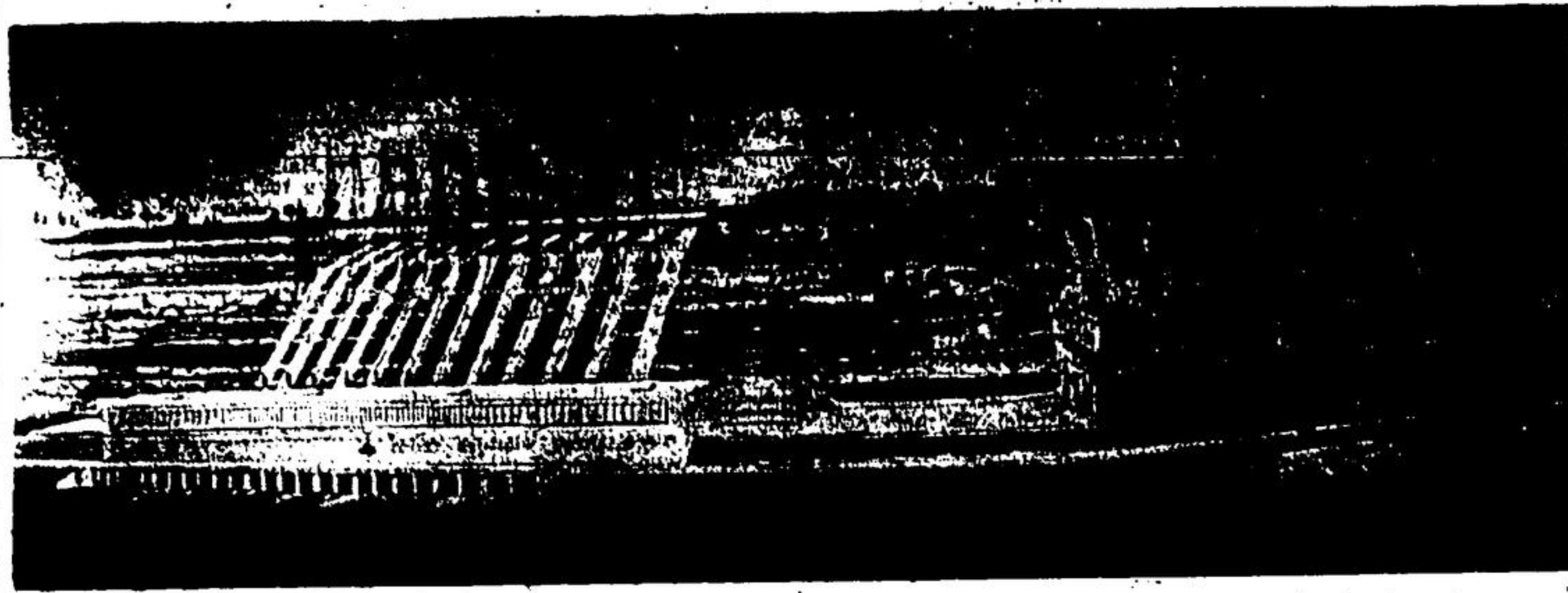
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1,200,000 HORSEPOWER will come from Ontario Hydro's Sir Adam Beck-Niagara Generating Station No. 2 upon completion in 1957. The plant, which will be in initial operation in 1954, is shown at the left in this artist's sketch of how the ultra-modern structure will look when finished. To the right is Hydro's Sir Adam Beck-Niagara

Generating Station No. 1, at one time the largest hydraulic power plant in the world. The new power development is the biggest ever undertaken by a public utility in Canada. Both plants are located on the bank of the turbulent Niagara River approximately six miles below the famous cataracts.

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**Niagara Tunnels
Not For Tourists**

Feeding the turbines of the Sir Adam Beck-Niagara No. 3 Generating Station at Queenston will be an hydraulic system featuring twin tunnels of colossal size. From the intake structures in the upper Niagara River near Chippawa, these tunnels will pass under the city of Niagara Falls and emerge near the Whirlpool Rapids. From here, an open canal, 2 1/4 miles in length, will convey the water on to the powerhouse forebay.

Forty thousand cubic feet of water will pass through the tunnels every second. This is one-fifth of the total flow of the Niagara River which is backed by the tremendous water storage of four of the five Great Lakes. It works out to the equivalent of 15,000,000 gallons per minute and adds up to a total of 21,600,000 gallons a day. A high average per capita daily use of water in a modern city is estimated at 100 gallons. The flow through the Niagara tunnels would therefore be sufficient to meet the domestic water requirements of an urban population of 216,000,000!

To handle this tremendous flow there will be two tunnels, each 5 1/2 miles long, bored through rock, with an unfinished diameter of 51 feet, which will be reduced to 45 feet when the smooth concrete lining is applied.

As far as it is known, no hydraulic tunnels in the world are comparable in terms of combined length and diameter to those being constructed by the Commission at Niagara.

A constant stream of diesel trucks carries the excavated material to the hoppers, and after reaching the surface there is a continuous movement of trucks carrying it on to the disposal areas. Hydro and contractors' trucks make a total of approximately 1,000 trips every working day and a goodly percentage of these journeys is associated with tunnel construction.

Altogether, five large tracts of land have been set aside for the whole Niagara project. These areas, totalling approximately 640 acres, provide space for all the excavated material. On completion of the

project these disposal areas will be graded and landscaped.

Down in the tunnels, following in the wake of the mucking operations, the scaling crews prepare the rough naked rock periphery for its concrete lining—a layer averaging three feet in thickness and as smooth and precisely circular as if drawn with a draftsman's compass.

The citizens of Niagara Falls will enjoy the distinction of having possibly the greatest twin-tunnel project of its kind in all the world pass directly under the business section of their city. It will be a thoroughly well-behaved and unobtrusive neighbor competing with no one, but bringing blessing to all.

Once they are completed the tunnels, in themselves, will never be an added tourist attraction because no one will ever be able to see them. Nevertheless the people of Niagara Falls and of the equally progressive surrounding communities will have very substantial reasons for feeling proud of them. They will be the principal arteries in a waterpower project which will stimulate and promote every local business and industry and bring the immeasurable benefits of a vastly increased supply of electrical power to every man, woman and child in Southern Ontario.

JOKE

Madge—"They say Ann is going to marry that x-ray specialist."

Marge—"Yes—he must see something in her that other people can't."

Pollock and Campbell

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In the year ending March 31, 1951, Ottawa paid out in unemployment insurance \$90,000,000; in the same year salaries and wages paid out to administrators of the unemployment insurance funds was \$17,000,000.



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