

Ottawa Report

by Terry O'Connor

The massive James Bay Hydro Project suddenly ground to a halt several weeks ago and then just as suddenly, got back on the rails again. The \$6 billion construction program would dam several large rivers, flood thousands of square miles of forest into large lakes and supply the hydro-electric needs of Quebec and a portion of the northeastern U.S. for many years to come.

However, its less attractive results include the destruction of one of the last large North American wildernesses and the annihilation of a nation of 6,000 people. This latter result is the saddest because it is a human tragedy. The Cree Indians of the area, until the arrival of the construction gangs, roads, town-sites, liquor, etc., lived by trapping, hunting and fishing much the same as had their forebears for centuries. With little thought for their future the Quebec government moved in and began systematically destroying their contented way of life. Compensation for the land which had never been deeded away by treaty by the Indians was, hardly mentioned and relocation plans were vague and inadequate.

Using a grant of over half a million dollars from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Indians went to court to stop the project. After painstakingly lengthy hearings, during which construction continued, a Supreme Court of Quebec judge ruled in favor of the Crees. He ordered negotiations commence to provide fair compensation for the loss of the land and to arrange relocation to similar areas to avoid destruction of the Indians as a people. In the meantime, he ordered all work to cease.

Reversed However, an appeal from this injunction, arranged and heard in a suspiciously short five days, reversed the judgment. Three Justices of the Quebec Court of Appeal ordered the parties to argue the case as to the "balance of inconveniences". That is, which side of the dispute would be more inconvenienced by the cessation of work—the Province or the Indians?

To straight-jacket the parties in this fashion is fundamentally unfair. Besides, our courts should not weigh justice in terms of numbers of people, or amounts of money. To do so and then find in favor of the majority or the most, succumbs to a "might is right" theory. A government could do as it wishes to anyone because it represents the majority. Individual rights would be obliterated. To extend the premise to international situations, the U.S. would be entitled to use whatever of our oil and gas it requires, because there are more Americans than Canadians.

The case will now be appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada where a definitive decision on the fate of these people will be made. Hopefully this action will be taken as swiftly as the appeal to the Court of Appeal for Quebec and that the ultimate justice will be equitable.

St. John Ambulance notes that the greatest factor in the recovery of a casualty is the speed and efficiency with which correct First Aid is given.

ANNOUNCEMENT



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Don Winans of Georgetown Chrysler Ltd. is pleased to announce the immediate appointment of Russ Robertson as General Sales Manager. Russ is extremely well known in this area and brings more than 20 years of Automobile Industry Experience to Georgetown Chrysler. We extend a sincere invitation to one and all to come on in and visit Russ whenever convenient.

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a-10 rolls of ass. design paper each 30" wide x 60" long. 4 rolls of foil in plain colours each 30" x 30" **297** pkg.
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BEAVER No. 10 Clip & Save handyman tips **10 in a series**

Trimming The Christmas Tree. There are a few simple rules to remember when trimming the family tree.

1. Always put the lights on first. This allows you to hide the wires later with decorations.
2. The tree top star is next. Remember to use a chair when placing the star on top of the tree. And avoid over-reaching so as not to lose your balance.
3. Then the hanging decorations and finally the icicles.

This year why not try a co-ordinated look for your Christmas tree. Start with a string of Blue lights, add Silver hanging decorations and then Silver icicles. Or Red lights with Gold decorations and Gold icicles.

Holiday Floodlight Kit

15 LIGHT INDOOR SET

15 LIGHT OUTDOOR SET

Universal 3 Lites

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100 Watt Outdoor Floodlight Kit

Another brilliant idea for your Christmas decorating from Canadian General Electric. Dependable 100 Watt bulb with polypropylene holder and hardware. Add-on receptacle on side. Red, Blue, Green, Yellow, Violet.

388 Kit

New Indoor 15 ft. Multiple Set

This is the way to trim your Christmas tree this year with beautiful lights. And do it economically. A beautiful set of 15 steady-burning bulbs. All with matte-finish and in cheery assorted colours. A great value.

497 Set

15 Light Glo Set

Set of 15 steady-burning lights in sturdy sockets to withstand many a season. Set includes assid colour bulbs. Blue, Green, Pink, White, Yellow, Orange.

267 Set

25 Lt. Outdoor Set

Just the thing to brighten up your home. One colour of bulb per set. Choose from Red, Blue, Green or Violet. Great buy!

687 Set

6 ft Pine Tree

Now you don't have to give up looks when you want convenience. Lush, life-like 6 foot pine tree with graduated, stick-in branches. Rounded needles. So easy to assemble. In rich Forest Green. A traditional touch even when you want carefree living.

1147 ea.

Handie Tree Holder

f-This economical tree holder has 3 adjustable eyebolts and 3 legs to keep the tree straight and firm. Water pan to help keep tree moist.

97c ea.

Deluxe Tree Holder

g-This stand will take a tree up to 3 1/2" in diameter. It's the only stand that can be attached above the lower branches. Both rings adjust. Metal container holds a pint of water.

177 ea.



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