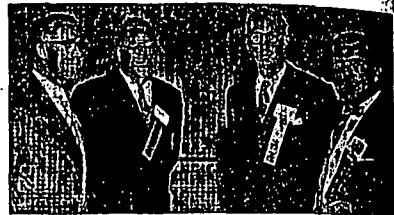


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NEW OFFICERS for Canada's Institute of Power Engineers: left to right, George Gibson, vice-president; Charles E. Baker, president; William G. Child, general secretary; Fred Bignall, vice-president. (For story of annual convention, see p. 256)

← WORLD'S first inner-cooled generator, built by Westinghouse Electric Corp., goes to Niagara Mohawk Power Co. Unit is rated at 100,000 kw yet, through redesigned cooling system, is only slightly larger than average 40,000-kw machine.

U. S. Plans Broad Atomic Energy Program

GENERAL ELECTRIC CO. has taken a double-barreled shot at the job of enlarging the scope of today's atomic energy applications. The company has offered the Atomic Energy Commission a proposal to build a large-capacity power reactor, at government expense, at the Hanford Works in Washington state.

Since operating temperatures of present reactors are entirely too low for economical power production, this installation would require an entirely new plant. No details are available on power capacity, operating temperature and other technical information, but GE states that the project would be economical.

Aim of this new installation would be to alleviate the power drain that the Hanford Works have been making on the Northwest hydro system. GE says the project would produce enough power to carry the Hanford Works itself and would also supply a surplus for supplementing regional sources.

GE is also planning to test-operate a new reactor power plant for submarines. Chicago Bridge and Iron Co. has built a large steel sphere at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory's West Milton, N. Y. site. This 3850-ton structure, 225-ft in diameter and higher than an 18-story building, will house the complete submarine during reactor tests.

WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORP. has contracted with the Atomic Energy Commission to construct the first full-scale atomic energy plant for peaceful use, a plant that will produce a minimum of 60,000 kw and will cost "tens of millions of dollars."

Rear Admiral Hyman C. Rickover, atomic reactor expert of the United States Navy, will be in charge of the project. Although still in the planning stage, AEC hopes to have the plant erected and in operation within three to four years. Tentative sites are Oak Ridge, Tenn.; Paducah, Ky., and Portsmouth, Ohio.

Early this year AEC submitted to the National Security Council a statement of policy on the development of nuclear power. Despite differences in political and economic opinions among the men of the Commission, unanimity was reached—in the only full informed quarter in the country—concerning the important subject of nuclear power development.

The nuclear power development race now seems to have split into two separate contests: (1) the arms race, including the production of bombs, missiles, submarine power plants and other weapons, and (2) the industrial power

race. Thomas E. Murray, AEC Commissioner, emphasized the importance of considering both parts of this race.

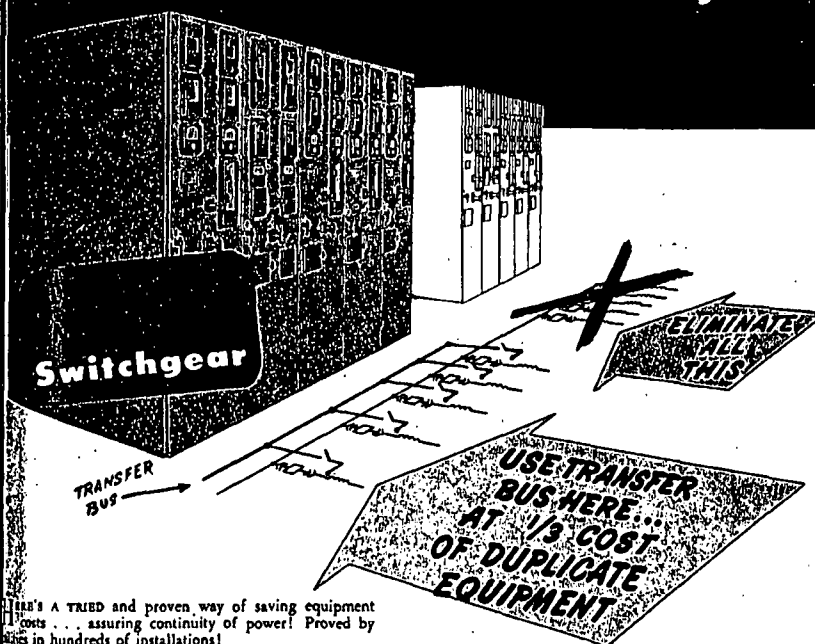
Speaking of the recent news about thermonuclear (H-bomb) demonstrations in Soviet Russia, Murray said, "This recent USSR accomplishment, great as we must admit it to be, is less dangerous today to the free world's hopes for the end of Godless tyranny than would have been the case if the Soviets had announced that they had been successfully operating a practical industrial nuclear power plant—and were offering foreign nations nuclear power technology in exchange for uranium, coupled with other favorable economic and political agreements."

"It is no secret that our atomic weapons program depends upon the receipt of substantial quantities of uranium from foreign nations. These friendly nations, I think, are motivated mainly by two beliefs. They believe in the military protection afforded by our atomic weapon potential. But we sometimes are inclined to forget that they also are betting on our great record of success in solving industrial and technological problems. They are banking on United States know-how and United States good faith to help them build their nuclear power plants of the future."

"I believe that unless we embark on (Continued on page 258)

For coming events see page 262

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