

PURPOSE OF THIS BOOKLET

Winter construction has come to be a well-accepted feature of the construction industry in Canada. Many great engineering projects such as the St. Lawrence River power scheme have been carried out with much of the work upon them performed during severe winter periods. The success of Canadian constructors in carrying out major building operations throughout Canadian winters has won for them an enviable reputation.

Despite this, it is not generally appreciated that even the smallest construction projects, including house building, can be carried out during winter periods, with little extra cost involved but with some advantages over summer construction — provided that all winter work is properly planned.

So much is to be gained by an increase in the volume of winter construction in Canada, particularly in the reduction of seasonal unemployment which will result, that the Government of Canada has officially endorsed efforts toward the extension of winter building work. This booklet is a contribution from the National Research Council Division of Building Research towards this goal.

It is intended to show how proper management can be applied to all normal building operations with a view to making them easier to perform during winter weather. The booklet deals with each major building operation. For convenience, many common features are repeated under the respective headings in order to make each section complete in itself.

This booklet is merely an introduction to a vast subject, but it is hoped that it will make clear that Canada's reputation for good building during the winter can apply just as well to the small job as to the major construction enterprise, provided that proper advance planning is done. The booklet starts with a brief section on planning, since planning alone holds the key to real success in winter construction.