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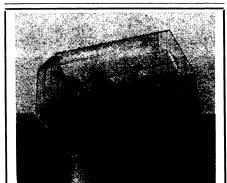
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33004



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POLLUTION CONTROL

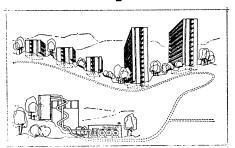
# **New Solid Waste System**

A new method of collecting garbage by using a system of underground ducts that whisk refuse away is being tried out in Sundbyberg, a Stockholm suburb, reports "Featuring Sweden," the journal of the General Export Association of Sweden. The installation has been made by the Stockholm firm AB Centralsug.

The vacuum-powered removal system is serving 250 flats in a new housing development, but when the area is fully built up, more than 5,000 flats will be connected to the system. Ducts under the various blocks of flats link up with a main duct which leads to a garbage hopper in which the garbage is collected. In a machine room there are vacuum pumps, dust filters, etc.

The housewife throws her garbage into a chute in the ordinary way. But instead of falling into bags or metal bins, the garbage lands on a valve which forms the bottom of the garbage chute. This valve also serves to seal off the vacuum which exists in the underlying duct during removal periods.

At least once a day the vacuum pumps start up automatically. The valve serving the chute nearest to the hopper is opened by electric impulses from the machine room. The garbage falls down



and is carried by the high-velocity air stream in the duct—80 to 90 feet per second—to the hopper. The air then passes through dust filters and escapes into the atmosphere through silencers.

A moment later the next valve opens and the first closes. The emptying of the garbage chutes continues in this way until the garbage from the entire area has been carried off to the hopper. The garbage hopper is directly connected to the incinerator of a space heating plant.

The system is not in use in the United States, though it is known here and has been under consideration by the building research and advisory board of the National Research Council, according to officials of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare's solid waste disposal program.

POWER RESOURCES

# More Power to Canada

Within a month Canada will launch a vast hydroelectric power development that will eventually yield twice the power produced by Niagara Falls.

The development involves the Nelson River in the northern part of the Province of Manitoba which drains into Hudson Bay. The whole area, with the myriad branches of the Nelson, drains thousands of miles of North America's heartland from the Rockies, the Great Lakes to the Mississippi watershed. To fully harness the power potential may cost as much as a billion dollars and 10 years.

The province has already committed \$225 million and a \$100 million government loan has been negotiated. The Nelson is expected to produce six million kilowatts, about six times Manitoba's present consumption. Surplus power is expected to be sold to power companies in the Minneapolis area some 500 miles south. Negotiations are already underway.

The Nelson drains a 600,000-square mile watershed extending from the

Rocky Mountains to Lake Superior, and from the headwaters of the Mississippi north to Hudson Bay, dropping 710 feet along its 400-mile course.

Engineers estimate that 690 feet of this drop can be used to produce power. Diversion of some flow from the adjacent Churchill River will give a waterflow through the dams of about 110,000 cubic feet per second. This is less than Niagara's, but since the flow can be used along the Nelson at least four times, equal amounts of power can be produced at each stage.

Extra-high-voltage lines in Quebec and Ontario have recently gone into use, pioneering the concept in Canada, although they have been in the U.S. for some 10 years.

Development of the Nelson power project is expected to result in more research into the field of direct current long-distance transmission. This transmission requires installations only at each end of the line, while alternating current requires booster stations along the way.