

(continued from p. 242)

CANADA

All electric community

A permanent all-electric community is to be built near the site of the most powerful hydroelectric project presently planned outside the Soviet Union.

The biggest underground power development in the world, with a capacity of 7 million horsepower, will be completed in 1976 at Churchill Falls on the Hamilton River in Labrador, 700 miles northeast of Montreal.

Construction of the community will start this spring to accommodate more than 1,000 permanent operating and maintenance staff.

Electricity will be used for everything from keeping water mains from freezing to climate control of the town center and heat to all dwellings.

As a convenience and to provide a strong focal point for the community like the old-time town square, the town center will concentrate under one roof public services and facilities from school to supermarket.

Houses will be oriented toward the sun, the town center and a small lake across the road from it.

One of the designers is Edouard Fiset, chief architect of Expo 67. "Special efforts will be made to provide privacy in the home, a real need for people living in remote communities," he points out. For example, houses will be built on only one side of the street so neighbors will not have to stare into each others' windows.

The arrangement will also provide more space, avoid back-to-back yards and allow plows to shove snow away from driveways in a region where annual snowfall averages 135 inches and snow may cover the ground from mid-October to early June. Temperatures at the 100-acre site 1,200 feet above sea level range from 55 degrees F. below zero to 90 above.

Fred Poland

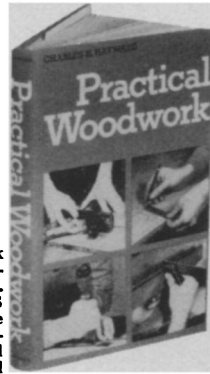
BRITAIN

Longer-lasting fillings

Good-looking front teeth are resulting from a new silicate filling material developed in London. Extended clinical trials are now in progress among Army personnel following some five years of research in the Laboratories of the Amalgamated Dental Group of the Ministry of Technology's Warren Spring Laboratory. The filling, it is claimed, combines the strength and durability common to fillings of the back teeth, (see p. 246)

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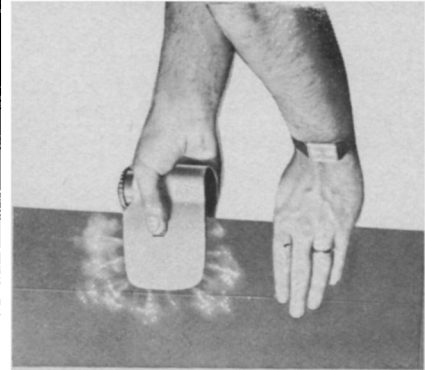
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and at the same time provide cosmetic qualities desirable in the front teeth.

Unlike all silicate fillings now in use, the new material does not craze. Although crazing is not in itself always visible to the naked eye, it penetrates deep into the surface and weakens the structure, causing short life and staining.

Today's fillings for the front teeth can be ruined in a matter of seconds in the period between mixing the filling, inserting it into the tooth and applying a protective coat.

The new material has a greater mixing tolerance, and fillings made from it can be trimmed and polished at one sitting. It also can be used for almost any type of restoration, including the repair of the cutting edge of incisor teeth.

Another new material, also sponsored by the National Research Development Corporation and developed at Warren Spring, is a dental porcelain. More than 50,000 crowns and bridge teeth have been made of it and fitted by dentists in Britain and overseas during an experimental period of three years. It is said to combine the advantage of the postwar acrylic plastics and of ordinary porcelain without the disadvantages of either.

These dental porcelains are based on alumina, an oxide of aluminum. Alumina itself is widely used in the ceramic industry for the manufacture of furnace linings, grinding wheels and insulators. Many gemstones, including sapphires and rubies, consist largely of alumina.

F. C. Livingstone

## AUSTRALIA

### Free hormone for dwarf children

Dwarf children are to get a growth hormone as a free benefit. The human growth hormone (HGH) will be extracted from human pituitary glands by the Federal Government's Commonwealth Serum Laboratories.

State governments are cooperating by collecting pituitary glands from hospitals and pathologists. The pituitary, a small gland at the base of the brain, is normally removed in postmortem examinations.

Health Minister A. J. Forbes says Australia would be the first country to make HGH available to the whole community, not just to selected groups for experimental purposes. Only limited supplies are available. The Humane Pituitary Advisory Committee of endocrinologists, scientists and clinicians will advise on availability and distribution. In general, HGH will be made available to treat children dwarfed by a demonstrated lack of pituitary growth hormone in their systems.

William A. Scholes

(continued from p. 228)

180 degrees F. and is not affected by rapid temperature fluctuations between these extremes, nor by humidity.

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Price: \$250  
LKB Instruments, Inc.  
12221 Parklawn Dr.  
Rockville, Md. 20852

### Chemical spreader

Designed for gardeners and experimenters, this lightweight two-wheel spreader for liquid lawn chemicals applies spray accurately to an exact area. From a spray head five inches above the ground, the chemical can be applied without drift over a 36-inch wide swath.

The unit holds five gallons and has a 4 1/2-inch handle.

Price: \$125  
Amchem Products Co.  
Ambler, Pa.

### Boiling point indicator

Automatic determinations of boiling and melting points are made by this instrument which displays values digitally to .1 degree C. A very small sample of the substance is placed in a capillary tube and inserted into the furnace attached to the system. The experimenter presses a lever for the boiling or melting point and reads off the result.

Price: \$1,475  
Mettler Instrument Corp.  
20 Nassau St.  
Princeton, N.J. 08540

### Metric indicating caliper

Developed for physicians and surgeons, this direct-reading caliper will measure both outside and inside areas up to 15 centimeters. Suitable also for industrial and research uses, the easy-to-read instrument is made of stainless steel and can be folded compactly for sterilizing or storage.

Price: \$24.00  
Indicating Caliper Company  
Box 51  
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