

MR. SPAAK'S VISIT: The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium, Mr. Paul Henri Spaak, arrived in Canada February 24 for an official visit. During his visit to Ottawa he is the guest of His Excellency the Governor General, Mr. Massey, at Government House.

Mr. Spaak was welcomed on arrival at Dorval Airport February 24 by His Excellency Fernand DuRoi, the Belgian Ambassador to Canada, and by Mr. E. D'Arcy McGreer, the Chief of Protocol.

Mr. Spaak addressed a Canadian Club luncheon on February 24 and held a press conference. Afterwards there was a joint reception by the Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Commons followed by dinner that evening at Government House.

On February 25 Mr. Spaak was to call on the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson, and on the Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. St. Laurent. Later he was to address the NATO Parliamentary Committee in the Railway Committee Room of the Parliament Building. That evening there was to be a dinner at the Belgian Embassy.

Mr. Spaak will spend Saturday at Chalk River. In the evening there will be a reception at the Belgian Embassy.

On February 28, Mr. Spaak will be in Montreal and on February 29 he will visit the University of Montreal and McGill University. The International Civil Aviation Organization will entertain in his honour and he will be the guest of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs at dinner at the University Club that evening.

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WRENS IN RCN: Approval has been given for the establishment of Wrens as part of the regular force of the Royal Canadian Navy. Although Wrens were re-introduced in 1951, their service to date has been limited to the Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve).

This is the first time in the history of Her Majesty's navies that Wrens have been totally integrated in the regular force. Other Commonwealth navies have Wrens as an auxiliary service or as a reserve.

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INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: Three work stoppages arising from industrial disputes in Canada during January accounted for almost 95 per cent of the total time loss, according to a preliminary summary of strikes and lockouts released by the Minister of Labour.

These three work stoppages were responsible for a combined time loss of 206,950 man-working days and involved a total of 9,059 workers. They were: motor vehicle factory and parts depot workers at Windsor, Oakville and Etobicoke, Ontario; linoleum factory workers at Montreal and Farnham, Quebec; and plumbing and heating equipment factory workers at Toronto.

SENIOR ARMY CHANGES: Five senior Canadian Army officers will figure in changes of appointments between now and early May, it was announced February 25.

Brigadier H. W. Love, OBE, C1, now Commander, Northwest Highway System, will be appointed Commander, Saskatchewan Area with headquarters in Regina.

Colonel H. L. Meuser, OBE, CD, now Chief of Staff and Assistant Military Attaché, Canadian Army Staff, Washington, D.C., will be promoted to the rank of brigadier and succeed Brigadier Love as Commander, Northwest Highway System.

Colonel E. C. Mayhew, C1, now Director of Armament Development, Quartermaster General's Branch, at AHQ, will take over Col. Meuser's duties in Washington.

Colonel D. A. G. Waldock, CD, Commanding the Canadian Armament Design and Experimental Establishment at Valcartier, Que., will be appointed Director of Armament Development.

Colonel C. R. Boehm, MBE, CD, Deputy Army Member, Canadian Joint Staff, London, England, will assume command of the Canadian Armament Design and Experimental Establishment at Valcartier.

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POWER OUTPUT RECORD: Production of electric energy by central electric stations in the full year 1954 reached an all-time high of 69,136,584,000 kilowatt hours, 5.6% above the preceding year's 65,489,253,000 kilowatt hours. At the same time consumption rose 5.2% to 66,535,911,000 kilowatt hours from 63,244,022,000.

All provinces shared in the increased production in the year 1954, Quebec accounting for almost one-half of the national total at 34,732,279,000 kilowatt hours versus 33,950,224,000. Ontario's output climbed to 20,963,613,000 kilowatt hours from 19,025,149,000 and British Columbia's to 5,371,338,000 kilowatt hours from 5,225,527,000.

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TV RISE: Producers' sales of TV receivers soared to a new high annual total of 623,856 units in 1954 as compared with 366,498 in the preceding year but sales of radio receiving sets dropped to 487,237 units from 620,860. The value of TV sets sold was \$216,451,362 versus \$148,753,479, and the radio sales were valued at \$35,816,274 versus \$52,119,381.

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WHEAT SUPPLIES: Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on February 9 totalled 355,241,000 bushels, 4% below last year's 369,820,000 bushels. Deliveries from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 9 fell to 3,090,000 bushels from 4,686,000 and overseas export clearances dropped to 1,880,000 bushels from 2,534,000.