

be the world's first inter-continental airline operating an all-turbine powered commercial fleet, consisting of "Viscounts", "Vanguards" and DC-8's exclusively.

Installation work began in 1960 on TCA's new \$3,500,000 electronic reservations system, which will speed reservations procedures and reduce the change of reservations errors to an absolute minimum. This system is expected to be operational by the end of 1961.

At the end of the year TCA's fleet consisted of seven DC-8's, three "Vanguards", 49 "Viscounts", 12 "Super Constellations", six DC-3's, 17 active "North Stars" and four retired. Three additional DC-8's and 17 "Vanguards" will be delivered in 1961.

The Rolls-Royce "Dart" turbine engines which power TCA's "Viscounts" achieved an unprecedented life of 3,000 hours between overhauls in 1960, a full year's flying without being removed from the aircraft, and ample proof of the outstanding reliability of these powerplants.

CANADIAN DESIGNS BEST STAMP

A Canadian postage stamp, issued last May 19 to commemorate the famous stand of Dollard Des Ormeaux and his companions at the Long Sault, has been named "best of the year" by an outstanding British philatelic authority.

The blue and brown Des Ormeaux stamp, which pictures a profile of the gallant French leader against a background battle scene, won first place in the 1960 "Ten Best" list of the Stamp Collector's Annual, published by Harris Publications Ltd. of London, England. Selections are made each year from among the thousand or more stamps issued by all countries of the world. The award-winning stamps are chosen by L.E. Scott, a noted English philatelic writer.

THE DESIGNER

The Dollard stamp was designed for the Canada Post Office by Philip Weiss, a native of Quebec who now makes his home in Ottawa. Another Canadian stamp, commemorating the Battle of the Plains of Abraham and also designed by Mr. Weiss, won a place on Mr. Scott's "Ten Best" list for 1959.

In reviewing his choice, Mr. Scott referred to the one and one-half inch square Canadian commemorative as "a little masterpiece".

In announcing the award, Postmaster General William Hamilton noted that the Dollard stamp has been issued to commemorate an important milestone in the relations between the settlers of New France and the native Indians. He pointed out that another stamp, marking the centennial of the birth of the Indian poet E. Pauline Johnson, would be issued early in 1961 and would honour the tremendous contribution of Canada's Indians to the development of the nation.

UNIVERSITY ENGINEERS TO INDIA

The appointment has been announced, under the Colombo Plan, of two university deans of engineering to carry out a survey of requirements in connection with the establishment of the Regional Engineering Institutes of India. The Regional Engineering Institutes form part of the development programme of India's third five-year plan. Dean R.R. McLaughlin of the University of Toronto and Dean H.G. Conn of Queen's University left for New Delhi during the first week of January on an assignment expected to take about two months.

LEADS EXPEDITION TO MEXICO

Dr. Richard S. MacNeish, senior archaeologist of the National Museum of Canada, has been selected to direct a research project in South-Central Mexico that will trace in detail the beginnings of agriculture and civilization in the New World.

Resources Minister Walter Dinsdale has announced that the National Museum scientist has been granted leave to visit the Tehuacan region of Mexico, where an expedition sponsored by the Peabody Foundation for Archaeology of Andover, Massachusetts, will collect material remains of Indian cultures remarkable for their successful practice of agriculture 6,000 to 9,000 years ago.

AN EARLIER EXPEDITION

Dr. MacNeish gained an international reputation for his investigations of the early cultures of North America in Northern Canada and in Mexico. In 1953-54 he led an archaeological expedition to Northern Mexico, which found a collection of plants and seeds dating from about 7,000 B.C. These, together with the remains of other food plants, showed that the early Indians of what is now Mexico may have been among the first people in the world to domesticate plants and practise an agriculture notable for such scientific practices as hybridization. Dr. MacNeish has returned to Mexico in recent winters using periods of annual leave and his own funds to pursue independently his research into early agriculture in North America.

Detailed exploration of the homes of North America's first farmers by the Peabody Foundation expedition is expected to yield important information on how and why civilizations arise, as well as scientific data that may aid modern agriculturists to increase food crop yields.

A \$21,500 grant has been made to Dr. MacNeish by the National Science Foundation of Washington, D.C., to assist the first season of field work by the expedition. Other U.S. foundations supporting scientific research are expected to make comparable grants. Dr. MacNeish has been granted leave-of-absence from

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