

Training and transport aircraft stamps issued

The Canada Post Corporation issued four stamps as part of its continuing series devoted to Canadian aviation, on November 24. Two 17-cent postage stamps feature the de Havilland DH-82C *Tiger Moth* and the Canadair C1-41 *Tutor*, while two 35-cent stamps show the Avro Canada C-102 *Jetliner* and the de Havilland *DASH-7*.

Developed in Britain, the *Tiger Moth* elementary trainer first flew in 1931. De Havilland Canada built more than 1,500 *Tiger Moths* at their Toronto plant between 1937 and 1942, most of which were specially modified for Canadian conditions. The Royal Canadian Air Force first used the Canadian model for elementary pilot training in 1938. During the Second World War, thousands of pilots were trained on this aircraft.



In 1958, Canadair Limited of Montreal decided to enter the jet training aircraft market with a private venture — the CL-41 *Tutor* basic jet trainer, the first aircraft designed wholly by Canadair. The merits of the aircraft led to a decision by the government to purchase the CL-41 trainer in quantity for the RCAF. The *Tutor* was well-suited for adaptation to military use in ground attack duties. In Canada the CL-41 is still in service for



basic training and is flown by the "Snowbirds" aerobatic team.

The Avro Canada C-102 *Jetliner* was North America's first jet transport. It flew on August 10, 1949, only 14 days after the world's first jet airliner. Design of this jet transport was initiated in 1946 to Trans Canada Airlines specifications, and later work on the C-102 project continued with government support. During 1950 and 1951, the *Jetliner* established



several intercity flight records and showed every indication of success in the commercial transport field. This potential was not realized, for the Korean conflict led to a decision that Avro Canada concentrate its production resources on the CF-100 jet interceptor.

Designed and built by de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited, the *DHC-7*, a quiet short-takeoff-and-landing airliner, incorporates the results of a world-wide



study of short-haul transport requirements. The design for the *DASH-7* got under way in Downsview, Ontario, on March 27, 1975. Its excellent STOL performance has made the aircraft attractive to operators flying from small airfields in remote and rugged terrain. It is equally suitable for commuter airlines serving large metropolitan areas.

The aircraft stamps were painted by Robert Bradford, and typography was designed by Jacques Charette. Shortly following the issue of these commemorative postage stamps, the 1981 Annual Souvenir Collection of the Postage Stamps of Canada will be released. Each year Canada Post prepares a special collection, including a set of all the postage stamps issued during the year and an illustrated book with the stories behind the stamps. The 1981 collection is available at the Philatelic Mail Order Service, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0B5.

Playgrounds go world-wide

A small Ontario firm has spent the last 32 years designing playgrounds for children around the world.

Paris Playground Equipment Limited of Paris, Ontario, east of Hamilton, was launched in 1949 with five employees in a converted chicken coop. The company now employs 64 in an 80,000-square-foot building on an industrial park.

Parks throughout Canada have equipment manufactured by Paris Playground, which has specialized in the creative or total playground concept.

Solid product

Children in Australia, Trinidad, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Europe also play on the Canadian-made products. Edward Attlebery, export sales manager, said the firm has successfully mastered the art of producing a playground product that will stand up to the rigours of weather, as well as the destructive capabilities of children. He said the company is looking at more foreign sales.

The company's major customers are municipalities and their parks boards, followed by school boards.

The company's playground equipment are "kid-tested for playability and safety" in a local park where the company has a display and test operation for the town's youngsters to use.

The company started with five basic items: slides with chutes made of hard maple or cherry, steel swings, teeter totters, horizontal ladders and bouncing horses. Now it makes hundreds of items, including sports equipment and park benches, flag poles, bicycle racks and garbage cans.

The company turns steel pipe into rocket ships, beehives, horses and even a rendition of the Loch Ness monster. Playground packages start at \$500 and go as high as \$26,000 for the Paris Spectacular, the top of the line model with a moat, castle and playing space.

An average playground model includes: three slides, a 14-foot plastic chute, tire swings, track rides, a variety of ramps, scrambling net, drawbridge, clatter bridge, tire swing bridge, vertical tube climber, multi-level castle keep and firemen's poles. Paris Playground sells through a dealer network across Canada and the northeastern United States, a sales agency in Europe and a representative in Kuwait. Its products are manufactured under licence in Australia.