

NEW POSTAGE STAMP: The Hon. Hughes Lapointe, Postmaster General, has announced the details of a special postage stamp to be issued in honour of David Thompson, famous Canadian explorer and geographer of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The stamp will be a five cent denomination and will be first issued for sale on June 5, 1957.

The story of David Thompson is that of a young English "Charity" boy who at the age of 13 came to Canada in the service of the Hudson Bay Company after having completed a course in navigation. Following his arrival in 1784, he painstakingly continued his studies, and soon was carrying on important exploratory work for the company in the Northwest. By the time he was 17, he had penetrated Western Canada as far as present day Calgary. David Thompson had an unusual ability to get along with the Indians, and his friendship with the various western tribes played an important part in the success of his work. Transferring to the North West Company in 1797, Thompson devoted all his time to mapping and exploration and before his death in 1857 had become famous for his achievements in the territories now forming the Provinces of Alberta and British Columbia.

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RESEARCH REACTOR: The Atomic Energy Control Board has issued to Hamilton College, McMaster University, a permit for the construction of a one megawatt research reactor of the swimming pool type. The reactor will be built on the McMaster University campus in the west end of the City of Hamilton.

This will be the first non-government reactor to be constructed in Canada. The Atomic Energy Control Board has established a Committee, the Reactor Safety Advisory Committee, to advise it on the health and safety aspects of reactor projects. The permanent members of this Committee--experts from National Research Council, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, the Department of National Health and Welfare, and the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario--had been joined by representatives of the Ontario Departments of Health and Labour and by the Medical Officer of Health of the City of Hamilton in their consideration of the Hamilton College application.

At the request of the Committee, Hamilton College has made a number of changes in design to improve the control and safety features of its reactor. In addition it planned to house this reactor in a windowless reinforced concrete building with walls 2 feet thick, which it is considered will provide more than ample protection for the public in the unlikely event of an accident. Permission

to operate the reactor will not be given, however, until the reactor has been completed to the satisfaction of the Board and until detailed operating procedures have been submitted by the College and approved by the Board.

This reactor will provide additional Canadian facilities for atomic energy research and development and will enable this country to make still more contributions in this important field of science.

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JET TRAINING: Nine RCAF pilots left last week for England to attend a three-month course on the Comet jet aircraft, it was announced by Air Force Headquarters.

A total of 70 aircrew and groundcrew personnel will have attended the courses by the time they are completed in mid-July of this year. The courses, which are being held at the De Havilland Aircraft Ltd. plant at Hatfield, Eng., are of varying lengths and the aircrew and groundcrew are moving over to England from Uplands as their courses come due.

Four flight engineers and a number of groundcrew personnel have already left for courses which began in mid-March. The nine pilots who left last week, all members of 412 Transport Squadron, based at Uplands, Ont., are the first of the aircrew to leave. Four navigators will leave this week and the four radio officers are scheduled to go at the end of April. The ground training portion of the various aircrew courses has been arranged in this manner in order that the aircrews will be ready to begin flying when the aircraft are accepted by the RCAF from De Havilland.

On completion of the flying training, the RCAF crews will bring the Comets back to Canada.

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FARM WORKERS: An organized movement of workers from the Atlantic Provinces to Ontario farms has now begun, according to an announcement by Hon. Milton F. Gregg, Minister of Labour.

This organized farm worker excursion, like many movements of farm labour in previous years, was arranged under Federal-Provincial Farm Labour Agreements, the Minister explained. The gradual movement is expected to continue until the end of July. The return movement will take place between August 15 and October 31.

At this time it is not known how many Maritimes workers will participate in the excursion, but in other years as many as 400 to 600 have taken part in the excursion.