

# Tenth Assembly of ICAO

THE TENTH SESSION of the Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization met in Caracas, Venezuela, between June 19 and July 16, 1956 under the presidency of Dr. Santiago Pérez Pérez, the Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations. The Canadian Delegation, led successively by Mr. George C. Marler, Minister of Transport, and Mr. R. M. Macdonnell, Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, included Mr. C. S. Booth, Assistant Deputy Minister of Transport, Mr. J. A. Irwin, Canadian Representative to ICAO, and officials of the Air Transport Board and the Departments of Transport, Finance, and External Affairs.

## Organization of ICAO

ICAO is a Specialized Agency of the United Nations in which the governments of sixty-nine states are now participating. Fifty-six member states sent delegations to Caracas while three non-contracting states and nine international organizations were represented by observers. The Organization was established by the Chicago Convention of 1944. Its aims include the development of the principles and techniques of international air navigation and the encouragement of the planning and development of international air transport, so as to meet the needs of the peoples of the world for safe, regular, efficient, and economical air services while protecting the rights of all contracting parties.

ICAO has its permanent headquarters in Montreal, where it maintains an international secretariat of some four hundred persons. The executive body of the Organization is the Council, which consists of twenty-one member states chosen by the Assembly every three years; Council states maintain permanent representatives at the headquarters in Montreal and also participate in the work of subordinate bodies, the Air Navigation Commission, the Air Transport Committee, the Joint Support Committee, the Legal Committee, and the Finance Committee. In the past a number of assemblies have been held in Montreal, but in recent years "major" assemblies have only been held every three years and it has become the practice for these meetings to take place away from Montreal.\*



Mr. George C. Marler

\*The last such Assembly was held in Brighton, England in June 1953: see "External Affairs", September 1953, p. 274.