

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION: "The emergence of the International Air Transport Association as a partner of and complement to the International Civil Aviation Organization stands as one of the great postwar achievements in aviation" said the Minister of Transport, Mr. Lionel Chevrier, in welcoming, on behalf of the Government of Canada, the delegates to the Ninth Annual General Meeting of the International Air Transport Association which opened in Montreal on October 5.

He referred to the Association's work in the field of tariffs and rates as one of its greatest contributions and said "your courageous experimentation in new types of services and lower rates will stand as a landmark in airline history. I am also impressed," he said, "by the establishment and use of your own machinery for policing the rates situation. It is important that you should continue to deal with this in a firm fashion without discrimination or favouritism and that you should be able to rely on the co-operation of governments for this purpose."

To the Association's work in simplifying border crossings regulations, he paid special tribute. "It is the growth of international aviation more than anything else," he said, "that has led to the concerted efforts that have taken place to ease the problems of border crossings." Although controls are essential, he said, they should not be stretched to the point of restricting the advantages of speed.

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EVENTS IN POLAND: Following is the text of a statement by the Department of External Affairs issued on October 3 in connection with recent events in Poland:

"The news of the renewal of religious persecution in Poland will deepen sympathy in Canada for the suffering Polish people. The recent trial of Bishop Kaczmarek, three priests and a nun has followed the usual Iron Curtain pattern, in which the defendants are induced to condemn themselves. The arrest of Cardinal Wyszynski without any charge being laid against him outrages all principles of justice.

"It is significant that these new instances of religious persecution come at a time when the Communists claim to be concerned to bring about a relaxation of tension in Europe and elsewhere. If the Communist leaders are honest in their declarations of peaceful intentions, they should realize that acts of religious persecution which arouse the indignation of the peoples of the free world contradict and deny these professed intentions."

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In the last three years the average declared expenditure per car of American visitors in Canada slumped from \$66.53 in 1949 to \$51.92 in 1952.

MEMORIAL TO AIRMEN: A memorial to missing Canadian and other Commonwealth airmen who lost their lives in the Second World War will be unveiled at Runnymede in England by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on October 17, Air Force Headquarters has announced.

Representing Air Marshal C. Roy Slemon, Chief of the Air Staff at the ceremony will be Air Vice Marshal Hugh Campbell, Air Officer Commanding No. 1 Air Division in Europe. Air Commodore Martin Costello, Air Member of the Canadian Joint Staff in London, will also attend the unveiling.

The shrine was built at a cost of more than \$40,000 in memory of more than 20,000 Commonwealth airmen--of whom more than 3,000 were Canadians--who lost their lives in the European Theatre of war. All those commemorated have no known graves. Built of stone the memorial contains 52 chapels, each with the badge of the various wartime Air Force squadrons inscribed on the coppered ceiling.

Mr. Norman Robertson, Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom will place a wreath at the dedication ceremony on behalf of the Canadian Government.

Veterans Affairs Minister Hugues Lapointe, in his capacity as official agent in Canada of the Imperial War Graves Commission, builders of the monument, and Mr. C.G. Power, wartime Air Minister, will represent the Canadian Government at the ceremony.

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WHEAT STOCKS RISE: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America increased about 3,300,000 bushels during the week ending September 17 to 291,600,000 bushels, sharply above the stocks of 201,600,000 bushels at the corresponding date last year. Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week moved up to 4,800,000 from 4,444,000 bushels the preceding week, but were below last year's corresponding figure of 5,800,000 bushels; the cumulative total from August 1 was also lower this year at 35,500,000 against 38,300,000 bushels.

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Wool shorn from 895,700 Canadian sheep this year is estimated at 6,659,000 pounds in the grease, an increase of eight per cent in the number of sheep and 4.4 per cent in the amount of shorn wool over the 6,378,000 pounds shorn from 828,600 sheep last year. Average fleece weight declined slightly to 7.4 from 7.7 pounds in 1952.

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The growing popularity of mutation mink furs is suggested by 1953-54 Canadian production estimates. The season's output of pastel mink pelts is expected to reach 117,100 as compared with only 64,300 in 1952-53, and silverblu mink pelt production is anticipated at 109,100 against 92,400 a year earlier.