

with any experience in the second world war. It was not one hundred per cent but it was above 90 per cent indicating a very successful operational state.

"This is, I say, in operation today and the whole system as planned between the United States and Canada will be in complete operation by late summer or early autumn. The communications are hooked up so that within seconds or a minute or so of an aircraft being found on the radarscope at one of the radar stations the intelligence of that is received at air defence command and at Colorado Springs where the United States strategical air force is located. Communications are in effect on a 24-hour basis.

RADAR DEFENCES

"It is very risky for people charged with defence to make a prophecy. All we can do is to give opinions and not give assurances, but this system of defence against air attack has reached the stage today where if I were in charge of the Russian air force and were aiming to reach important targets in the United States I would not go across the lines of these radar defences. I would go some other way, and there are other ways.

"I have mentioned 90 per cent. That is a figure which I have cited for purposes of illustration, but that is not enough when you are dealing with A and H-bombs. We cannot get 100 per cent - I am sure of that - because of the size of the country, the difficulty of carrying out construction and the tremendous cost in terms of men, equipment and money. However, we do need more early warning. We need it not only in order to carry out interception but also in order to economize on manpower. The first step towards having additional early warning has been announced in the construction of a new chain across Canada, north of the existing one, to use equipment which has generally been known as the McGill Fence equipment. The purpose of this is to give additional early warning.

"We have also had under consideration by scientists and military experts in the United States and Canada additional means of having early warning, and no doubt additional steps will be taken from time to time. . . ."

* * * *

G.T. WESTERN RY: Operating figures in the first four months this year indicate that the Grand Trunk Western Railroad will end 1954 with a deficit of approximately \$548,000, compared with a net surplus of \$1,150,329 in 1953. Mr. Donald Gordon, Chairman and President of the Canadian National - Grand Trunk System, told the annual meeting of the G.T.W. Board of Directors at Detroit on May 17. Revenues for the year, estimated at about \$58,000,000, would be 5.29 per cent less than actual 1953 revenues.

IMMIGRATION UP 23 P.C.: The Department of Citizenship and Immigration reported this week that during the first three months of 1954 immigration was 23 per cent greater than in the same period last year. The totals were 28,223 and 22,937 respectively.

Immigration from the United Kingdom was up 24 per cent from 6,367 to 7,882. The biggest increase, however, was from countries other than the United Kingdom, the United States and North Europe.

This total was up by 66 per cent, from 5,870 to 9,773. The biggest increase was in Italian immigrants. In the first three months of 1953, Italian immigrants numbered 2,972; in the same period this year they numbered 6,156. Italian immigrants made up the largest single national group in the first quarter.

The largest group from the North European countries came from Germany - 3,674. This was a decrease from last year's first three months when 4,173 Germans came to Canada.

The next largest North European group were the Dutch. There were 2,973 Netherlands immigrants in January, February, March, an increase of 145 over the number in the corresponding period a year ago.

* * * *

MAY 5 WHEAT STOCKS: Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on May 5 totalled 347,959,000 bushels, slightly under the 348,731,000 bushels held a week earlier, but up almost 31% from last year's corresponding stocks of 266,180,000 bushels.

Prairie farmers reduced their wheat deliveries in the week ending May 5 to 3,844,000 bushels from 8,255,000 a year earlier, oats to 788,000 bushels from 1,051,000, barley to 966,000 bushels from 2,640,000, and rye to 81,000 bushels from 153,000.

Overseas export clearances of wheat in the week totalled 2,853,000 bushels, up from 1,915,000 a week earlier, but sharply below last year's 8,973,000.

* * * *

AID FOR ALLIES: New shipments of Canadian military supplies are on their way to the United Kingdom and Denmark under terms of the mutual aid programme of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Army Headquarters has announced.

The shipments include trucks for use of the Royal Danish Army and vehicle spare parts and trucks for the Royal Air Force, United Kingdom.

The Danish supplies were shipped from Montreal. Supplies for the Royal Air Force are being shipped from Hamilton, Ont., at various times between May and the end of September.

* * * *

Death sentences were meted out to 17 murderers in 1952, two more than in 1951 but less than in any other year since the war.