

in attendance on Governor-General Vanier on this occasion. The Ambassador was accompanied by Mr. A. Touré, Counsellor of the Embassy.

Mr. Sow was born in August 1926 in Kayes, Mali. He was probationary officer of the Federation of Mali to the Quai d'Orsay before being appointed Secretary of Embassy by the Government of the French Republic and assigned to Kumasi, Ghana, as Vice-Consul. When Mali obtained its independence, he was named Resident Minister of the Republic of Mali in Accra, Ghana. In March 1962, Mr. Sow was appointed Ambassador to the United States, Brazil and Haiti, with residence in Washington.

COMMONWEALTH CABLE PROFIT

Showing a net profit of more than \$2 million - a record high since its formation in 1950 - and a revenue increase of 30 per cent over 1962, the thirteenth annual report of the Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation was released in the House of Commons on July 10 by Transport Minister McIlraith.

The main financial items in the report, submitted by D.F. Bowie, the Corporation's President and General Manager, disclosed the following comparative figures:

	1963	1962	Percentage Increase Over 1962
Income	\$12,320,698	\$9,484,410	30%
Depreciation	\$ 2,376,349	\$1,708,931	39%
Interest on Government Advances	\$ 1,971,300	\$1,516,046	30%
Income Tax	\$ 1,970,669	\$1,658,311	19%
Net Profit for Year	\$ 2,007,563	\$1,665,379	21%

The report features the results of the first full year of operation of the multi-channel, multi-purpose cable between Canada and Britain (the first section of the Commonwealth round-the-world cable), which was opened for service on December 19, 1961.

The report points out that this was also the first year during which reduced telephone rates were in force between Canada, Britain and Eire, and notes that the combination of these two factors has pro-

duced results that have more than justified the decision to provide the new facilities and at the same time to make rates more attractive to the user.

Mr. Bowie indicates in the report that discussions between the Corporation and the Department of Transport are being held with a view to further expansion of North Atlantic capacity "in the light of the anticipated development of world telecommunications by means of satellite systems as well as by cable".

SIVERTZ NWT COMMISSIONER

The appointment has been announced of Mr. B.G. Sivertz as Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, to replace Mr. Gordon Robertson, who was recently appointed Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet. Mr. Sivertz is Director of the Northern Administration Branch of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. The appointment is effective July 12.

The Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, Mr. Arthur Laing, indicated that this appointment would end March 31, 1964, if legislation now before Parliament to create the Territories of Mackenzie and Nunassiatq was passed. The new Commissioner for Mackenzie Territory would thereafter reside in Fort Smith, its prospective capital.

The Commissioner is chief executive officer of the Territories. In addition, he presides over the Council - the territorial legislature. The Council is at present in session in Inuvik, NWT.

FOREST FIRE FIGURES

Canadian forest areas burned by the end of May this year were estimated at 95,000 acres. The number of fires was 1,877. This, according to the federal Forestry Department, is a slight increase over the 90,000 acres burned by 1,546 fires to the end of May last year.

This season's reports show that 1,371 fires swept through some 86,000 acres of provincial forests during May. In the Yukon and Northwest Territories, 20 fires totalled some 35 acres. The estimated area burned in April - all in the provinces - was 9,000 acres.