

TROPHY WINNERS: Two Canadian pilots are among the nine British aircrew who have been awarded the Johnston Memorial Trophy for taking part in the British Government's Antarctic Expedition in 1955-56. The award, given by the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators of London, England, is the British equivalent of the McKee Trophy, Canada's premier aviation award.

One of the winners, James N.H. Greenshields, of Oshawa, chief check pilot of Kenting Aviation Limited, and The Photographic Survey Corporation, of Toronto, captained one of two Canadian Canso amphibians, which last year started a 60,000 square mile aerial survey of the Grahamland Peninsula for the United Kingdom. The other Canadian honoured is his co-captain in the Antarctic last year, Lew Terry, of Toronto. The Antarctic aerial survey is continuing this season with different aircrews and the Cansos engaged are due to start the long return to their Oshawa Airport base soon.

The Johnston Trophy is awarded "for the most outstanding feat of performance of aerial navigation, for the development of principles of air navigation, or for flights involving the development of the technology of navigation by a person or persons engaged in acivilian capacity." The trophy was subscribed for by pilots and navigators in memory of S/L E.L. Johnston, O.B.E., A.F.C., co-founder of GAPAN.

The Duke of Edinburgh will personally present the trophy at the annual banquet of GAPAN in London, England, on April 3.

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ALBERTA PROGRESS: Expansion in Alberta during 1956 is emphasized by production figures released by the Provincial Bureau of Statistics.

Value of mineral production in the Province reached \$408.9 million, some 25 per cent higher than 1955. Of the \$82.9 million increase, crude petroleum contributed \$78.6 million. Estimated production of crude petroleum is 144.3 million barrels as compared with 133 million barrels in 1955 and 87.7 million in 1954. Natural gas production rose to 150 million m.c.f. from 133 million m.c.f. Drilling activity continued at a rapid pace. It is estimated that total footage drilled to the end of 1956 will approach 10,000,000 feet.

Coal production remained close to the 1955 level. An estimated 4,361,274 tons valued at \$23,513,617 was produced compared with 4,455,279 tons valued at \$23,559,584, in 1955. Value of cement production increased from \$7,026,722 to \$9,951,000. Other figures show salt production up 12 per cent, sulphur up 14 per cent and clay up nine per cent in value.

Gross value of manufacturing is estimated at \$719.6 million, 12 per cent above the 1955 figure of \$641.3 million. This is largely attributed to substantial increases in the processing of foods and beverages, up \$24.2 million; petroleum products, up \$16.1 million,

and iron and steel products up \$13.1 million.

Activity in the slaughtering and meat packing industry reached record proportions with gross sales to the end of November totalling \$129.3 million, and \$11.4 million increase over 1955. An estimated 361.6 million pounds of meat valued at \$89 million were processed as compared with 332.1 million pounds valued at \$83.6 million a year ago. Exports of meat rose by 11 per cent in quantity and nine per cent in value.

Value of flour production was up three per cent from \$24.9 million in 1955 to \$26.1 million in 1956. Value of production of creamery butter and factory cheese dropped by four per cent and seven per cent respectively.

Wholesale trade to the end of January surpassed last year's total by 15 per cent. Retail trade is expected to pass the \$1,150 million mark. Bank clearings amounted to \$6,968,3 million as compared with \$5,466.5 million one year ago. Bank debits rose by 28 per cent, surpassing \$11 billion for the first time.

The gross production value of agriculture is estimated at \$649.6 million, an increase of \$46.9 over 1955. Value of field crop production totalled \$446.2 million.

New motor vehicle sales jumped from 34,146 in 1955 to 39,515 in 1956. Value increased from \$92,221,000 to \$118,356,000. Electric power consumption increased by 17.4 per cent to 1,819 million K.W.H.

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SEAWAY COSTS: Speaking last week in Montreal, Transport Minister George C. Marler pointed out that the capital budget of the Seaway Authority which he had recently tabled in Parliament "provides for expenditures of nearly \$285,000,000 for the works it is to carry out, while the works in the international Rapids section being undertaken by the United States are likely to cost about \$125,000,000, bringing the total for the navigation works to more than \$400,000,000". This amount, together with the expected \$500,000,000 cost for the power project in the International Rapids section, would, he said, bring the grand total for the Seaway and Power Project to around \$1,000,000,000.

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SCIENTIFIC ATTACHÉ: The National Research Council of Canada has announced the appointment of Mr. Harry Williamson, formerly Assistant to the Director of NRC's Division of Applied Biology, as Scientific Liaison Officer for the National Research Council in Washington, D.C. In co-operation with the Department of External Affairs, he will act as Scientific Attaché at the Embassy.

Mr. Williamson replaces Dr. J.D. Babbitt, who was transferred to Ottawa to serve as Assistant Director (Information Services) in NRC's Division of Administration.