

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S AWARDS

The Governor-General's awards for Canadian literature in 1958 have been announced by Mr. J.J. Talman, chairman of the Awards Board. Eighty-one titles in all categories were received for 1958, the largest number to be entered in the competition since it was established in 1937.

The winners in the various categories are as follows:

Fiction: "Execution", the story of a Canadian infantry battalion in the Italian campaign of the Second World War, the first novel of Mr. Colin MacDougall, Registrar of McGill University.

Academic Non-Fiction: "The History of Fanny Burney", by Professor Joyce Hemlow, a professor of English at McGill University.

Creative Non-Fiction: "Klondike", by Pierre Berton, Toronto. Mr. Berton, whose boyhood was spent in Dawson City, won the Governor-General's award for creative non-fiction in 1956 with his "Mysterious North".

Poetry: "A Suit of Nettles" by James Reaney, Winnipeg.

Juvenile: "Nkwala" by Edith Lambert Sharp, Penticton, B.C.

* * * *

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES MEETING

Fisheries experts of 12 nations met in Montreal on Monday, June 1, for the ninth annual meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries. Meeting in the Queens Hotel, the Commission sat until Saturday, June 6, and heard submissions from its various scientific teams on subjects ranging from fish conservation to the latest developments in fishing techniques.

Mr. J. Angus MacLean, Minister of Fisheries for Canada, formally opened the convention and a welcome was given to the 12-nation assembly by His Worship Sarto Fournier, mayor of Montreal. The Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Klaus Sunnanaa of Bergen, Norway, also spoke.

Member nations of the international convention are Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics and the United States. Newest members of the commission are Soviet Russia and Germany. This year Poland will be represented by an observer.

The history of ICNAF goes back to 1949 when 10 nations, including Canada, signed the convention. The Commission was formed in 1951 and held its first meeting in Washington in that year.

Conservation of the prolific northwest Atlantic fishing grounds, one of the richest fisheries in the world, is the main aim of the international body. While the commission itself has no legislative powers, it makes

recommendations to governments of member countries on measures for conservation of fish stocks. For instance, Canada is party to an agreement that provides for minimum mesh sizes for trawl nets used in the haddock and cod fisheries.

The vast Atlantic fishing area is subdivided into fishing districts which, in the Commission's terms of reference, are known as sub-areas. For each sub-area a panel has been established to manage operations in that respective area. Canada has memberships in four panels along with France, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

* * * *

WOOL TEXTILES

Factory shipments by Canada's wool textile industries in 1957 had a plant value of \$118,984,000, a decrease of \$7,992,000 or 6.3 per cent from the preceding year's \$126,976,000, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. The number of employees decreased 7.5 per cent from 12,135 in 1956 to 11,230 in 1957, and salary and wage payments 4.1 per cent from \$32,146,000 to \$30,822,000. Materials costing \$67,967,000 were used in 1957 compared with \$72,391,000 in 1956, a decrease of 6.1 per cent.

Apparel fabrics are the wool industry's most important line of production. Shipments of these were lower in both volume and value in 1957 than in 1956, the figures for the two years being, respectively, 27,380,000 square yards valued at \$45,063,000 and 29,704,000 square yards valued at \$47,240,000. Practically the same poundage of woollen and worsted sales yarns were shipped in the two years -- 13,485,000 pounds in 1956 as against 13,277,000 in 1957 -- but the selling value for 1957 at \$26,287,000 was slightly above 1956's \$26,070,000. Deliveries of felts of all kinds decreased to \$16,732,000 from \$17,102,000.

* * * *

GOVERNMENT FINANCES

Mr. Donald M. Fleming, Minister of Finance, has released the regular monthly statement of the Government's financial operations for April 1959, the first month of the current fiscal year.

For April, budgetary revenues were \$299.9 million, expenditures were \$298.5 million and there was a surplus of \$1.4 million. For April 1958, revenues were \$252.9 million, expenditures were \$263.6 million and there was a deficit of \$10.7 million.

Operations of the old age security fund for April 1959, which are not included in budgetary transactions, resulted in a deficit of \$19.1 million, compared with a deficit of \$17 million for April 1958. These deficits were covered by temporary loans by the Minister under the terms of the Old Age Security Act.