

MARINE HONOUR ROLL

On Friday, November 18, at a private ceremony, the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Canada, Sir Saville Garner, presented a copy of the Roll of Honour of the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleet to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green.

The Honour Roll, consisting of three handsomely-bound volumes, was compiled by the United Kingdom Ministry of Transport. It contains the names of those seamen from the United Kingdom and Commonwealth countries, including a substantial number of Canadians, who were killed in the Second World War while serving in ships of United Kingdom registry or under United Kingdom charter.

Consideration is being given to finding a suitable place in Ottawa where the Honour Roll may be displayed, and where interested members of the public may arrange to consult it. A later announcement will be made regarding the location selected.

SULPHUR IN CANADA

During 1959, the significant factor in the Canadian sulphur industry was the recognition that increasing production of natural gas in Western Canada for domestic use and export to the United States would soon result in a very large output of sulphur. Natural gas is in demand for industry and household use in both Eastern Canada and the Northern and Western parts of the United States. The inevitable use of the large supplies available in Western Canada will be accompanied by production of sulphur. Sulphur-recovery plants now operating in Western Canada are capable of producing 600,000 short tons of sulphur annually. Plants planned for the time when full-scale gas exports are in progress require the production of at least 2,400,000 short tons by 1962 and possibly 4 million short tons by 1970.

At present, world sulphur supplies are in excess of demand, and production is increasing at a faster rate than consumption. The discovery of sulphur resources in several countries in recent years and technical advances that produce a high-purity product have caused domestic production to serve local markets and reduced the dependence of consumers on the traditional suppliers, the Frasch-process producers of the United States. Sulphur consumption is rising, but at a rate lower than present producing capacity.

PRODUCTION AND TRADE

Although there are no known deposits of native elemental sulphur in Canada, sulphur or its equivalent in other forms has been produced in this country from native pyrite and pyrrhotite for 90 years. The manufacture of sulphuric acid from sulphur-dioxide gas derived from these sulphides was the basis of one of Canada's earliest chemical industries.

The large-scale production of low-cost, high-purity Frasch sulphur during the 1920's made most pyrite mining operations uneconomic, and the production of pyrite dropped from 416,600 short tons in 1917 to 15,600 short tons in 1925. In some areas, however, pyrite was able to compete with imported elemental sulphur, and the increasing production of base metals in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec supplied large amounts of low-cost by-product pyrite and pyrrhotite. An increasing demand for sulphuric acid, particularly for the fertilizer and uranium industries, together with improved processes for recovering both hot sulphur and iron from these sulphides, encouraged their use.

COLUMBIA COMMITTEE MEETS

The Canada-British Columbia Policy Liaison Committee met in Ottawa on November 23 and 24 to discuss matters connected with the proposed co-operative development of the Columbia River.

The Committee Co-chairmen were Mr. Alvin Hamilton, Federal Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. Williston, British Columbia Minister of Lands and Forests. Other ministers present were, for Canada: Mr. Howard Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. E.D. Fulton, Minister of Justice, and Mr. Walter Dinsdale, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources; and, for British Columbia, Mr. Robert Booner, Attorney-General and Minister of the Department of Industrial Development, Trade and Commerce.

During the course of the meeting, the ministers discussed, for the guidance of the Canadian negotiators, matters related to the drafting of a treaty on the basis of the progress report released by the Governments of Canada and the United States on October 19, 1960. Ministers also discussed arrangements connected with the implementation of the terms of the treaty in Canada.

The tentative dates for the next meeting of the Canada-British Columbia Policy Liaison Committee are December 8 and 9 in Victoria.

WINNIPEG FLOODWAY

A federal-provincial Floodway Advisory Board to advise on the plans and co-ordination of the engineering and construction of the joint Greater Winnipeg Floodway has been established, it was announced on November 26 jointly by Mr. Walter Dinsdale, Federal Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, and Mr. George Hutton, Manitoba Minister of Agriculture and Conservation.

The terms of reference for the four-man Greater Winnipeg Floodway Advisory Board are: 1. To review engineering studies already made and to recommend the basis or the method under which further engineering and construction would be undertaken.