

First-quarter starts rose 26 per cent or from 6,700 a year ago to 8,400, and the number under construction was reduced from only 56,500 at January 1 to 46,900 at March 1, the latter figure comparing with 37,500 at the end of March last year.

**International Trade Fair:** If it proves nothing else the Canadian International Trade Fair will prove that people of different towns, cities and villages from all over the globe have a common denominator--trade, the Trade Fair authorities have announced. From May 30 to June 10, the Trade Fair will welcome business people from Chepstow and Stoke-on-Trent in England; Motherwell, Glasgow and Alloa, Scotland; Naples, Florence and Milan, Italy; Detroit, Nashville and Los Angeles; Honolulu; Bangkok; Shanghai and Hong Kong; Bombay; New Delhi and Singapore; Niederbronn, Paris and Lyons; Newmarket, Montreal, Vancouver and Niagara-on-the-Lake; Stockholm, Caracas and Curacao; Sao Paulo, to name only a very few.

At this meeting place of the nations there will be no discussions on war, aggression, or defence. Ordinary people with goods to sell will display them before people who need them, and the man in the street of all the cities, towns and villages they call home, will benefit from their peaceful activities, the news release continues.

**Polish Veterans:** The Minister of Labour, Mr. Mitchell, has reported that at least 250 of the Polish veterans who came to Canada in 1946 and 1947 for jobs on farms were now either operating farms for themselves or had well-laid plans for doing so in the future.

Approximately 80 of these men were in Ontario, with the remainder established in every province with the exception of Newfoundland. Some of them had purchased their own acreage, while others had rented land or were operating farms on a crop-sharing basis.

**Mail Service To China:** Effective immediately mail service to China is temporarily suspended, the Post Office Department announced on May 21, with the exceptions mentioned below.

Regular mail, that is all mail except parcel post, may still be sent to the provinces of Fukien, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi only.

Mail for China will therefore be accepted only for the destinations indicated.

**Across Canada:** In the general election campaign, the Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, was speaking in Quebec, at the week-end; the Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, Mr. Drew, spoke in his home constituency, at Metcalfe, in Carleton; while the Leader of the C.C.F. Party, Mr. Coldwell, wound up his Maritime speaking campaign with two meetings in Cape Breton....Richard H. ("Dick") Greer, 70, one of the leading figures of the Canadian bar, died in Toronto yesterday....The Toronto Builders' Exchange will apply to the Ontario Minister of Labour, Mr. Daley, for permission to prosecute the unions involved in the walkout of 6,000 building tradesmen in Toronto, unless the strike deadlock is broken soon, Thomas Beattie, Chairman of the Exchange's Labour Relations Committee, was quoted by the Canadian Press as saying in Toronto yesterday. He said the member-contractors consider the strike, which enters its fourth week today, illegal.