

**EASTERN ARCTIC PATROL** The M. V. "Terra Nova", chartered by the Hudson's Bay Company, will sail August 8 from Montreal carrying supplies for Dundas Harbour on Devon Island and the settlements along the eastern and northern coasts of Baffin Island, it was announced August 5 by the Hon James A MacKinnon, Minister of Mines and Resources.

With Alexander Stevenson, an Ottawa official of the Northwest Territories Administration acting as Administrative officer, the vessel will undertake a portion of the duties of the Eastern Arctic Patrol, which in former years was carried out by the R.M.S. "Nascopie."

For many years, Canada has sent an annual expedition to the Canadian Eastern Arctic, which is reached by way of Hudson Strait and Baffin Bay, to replace personnel at R.C.M.P. posts, weather and radio stations, and medical and health centres, and to carry supplies and government inspection and health services to distant outposts of Canada in the Far North.

From 1933 to 1947, the Eastern Arctic Patrol covered about 10,000 miles annually, and was carried on the Hudson Bay supply vessel R.M.S. "Nascopie." This veteran ship was wrecked on a reef and lost off Cape Dorset in 1947, and this year the problem of supplying Arctic posts has been somewhat complicated pending completion of a new Government vessel which is expected to be ready for service on the 1950 voyage

Six small vessels are being employed, in addition to the government ice-breaker "N.B. McLean." Four of the vessels are owned or chartered by the Hudson's Bay Company--the "Terra Nova" and "Clarendville", which will serve northern Baffin Island, and the "Eskimo" and "Earle Trader" which will serve southern Baffin Island and Baker Lake. The "Ice Hunter", operated by the Baffin Trading Company, will serve points in Ungava Bay. As already announced the "Regina Polaris", owned by the Hudson's Bay Vicariate Transport Limited, sailed from Montreal on July 10 carrying freight and a medical and inspection party to posts in Hudson Bay, Hudson Strait and Ungava Bay. The R.C.A.F. has undertaken to carry relieving personnel to northern Baffin Island posts.

**ESQUIMALT GUNNERS' SCHOOL** A permanent Army School for the study and instruction of anti-aircraft and coast artillery techniques has been established at Esquimalt, on Vancouver Island, it was announced in Ottawa

To work with the school, the 129th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, now at Picton, Ont., will be converted to heavy anti-aircraft and moved to the new Esquimalt school. Most coast artillery personnel presently on the West Coast will remain as part of the new school and will be joined by gunners from the East Coast and the anti-aircraft school at Picton. The moves are expected to take place in September and October, after completion of the summer's C.O.T.C. training program

The new school is to be well equipped and is expected to make a real contribution to the gunners' science. It is planned that a proportion of C.O.T.C. cadets and Active Force recruits will be trained here in future

The Esquimalt school, known officially as the Royal Canadian School of Artillery (Coast and Anti-Aircraft), will become Canada's third Active Force school of Artillery. The other two are the School of Artillery (Field, Medium and Anti-Tank), at Shilo, Man and the school of Artillery (Anti-Aircraft), located at Picton, Ont.

**FRUIT CROP REPORT** Canada's fruit crops generally are about the same size as those of 1947, according to first estimates of production released by the Bureau of Statistics. The apple crop, currently estimated at 14,945,000 bushels, shows very little change from last year when the production was set at 14,931,000 bushels. Reduced pear crops in all producing provinces have resulted in a decline in the Canadian total of 22 per cent since last season, with production estimated at 753,000 bushels compared with 965,000.

The plum and prune crop, estimated at 619,000 bushels, is 20 per cent smaller than that of a year ago. Peaches, on the other hand, will be a heavier crop in both Ontario and British Columbia, and the Canadian total is expected to amount to 1,932,000 bushels or 16 per cent more than was produced last season. Apricots, which are grown commercially only in British Columbia, show a substantial increase this year at 184,000 bushels. The 1947 crop amounted to 159,000 bushels. There is little change in cherry production since last season, the crop standing at 312,000 bushels compared with 311,000 a year ago.

The strawberry crop, estimated at 26,967,000 quarts, shows an increase of approximately six per cent since last year. The raspberry crop is also heavier than that of a year ago and is estimated at 18,738,000 quarts compared with 18,035,000. Loganberries, which are produced commercially only in British Columbia, are much more abundant this year and the harvest is expected to amount to 2,091,000 pounds compared with 1,728,000. An increase of one per cent over last year's harvest brings the Canadian grape crop to 74,879,000 pounds

**CARLOADINGS** Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended July 31 declined to 75,976 cars from 78,433 in the preceding week and 79,011 in the corresponding week last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. The total for the eastern division decreased from 52,561 cars in 1947 to 50,851 cars, and the western division from 26,450 to 25,125 cars. Grain was down from 7,293 cars last year to 5,106 cars, grain products from 3,269 to 2,564, and l.c.l. merchandise from 17,987 to 17,349 cars.

**MOTOR VEHICLES SHIPMENTS** Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles in June totalled 23,362 units as compared with 21,368 in the preceding month and 21,137 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. During the first six months of this year, 129,182 units were shipped as compared with 126,215 in the similar period of 1947.

Factory shipments in June comprised 13,990 passenger cars and 9,372 commercial vehicles, 11,988 of the former and 7,470 of the latter being shipped for sale in Canada, with the remainder for export. In the half-year period, 74,179 passenger units and 55,003 commercial vehicles were shipped from the factories. Passenger units shipped for sale in Canada numbered 63,400, and commercial vehicles, 40,601.

**MR. CHEVRIER'S INSPECTION TOUR** Honourable Lionel Chevrier, Minister of Transport, is leaving Ottawa Monday morning, August 9, for an inspection tour of airports and other departmental facilities in Northern Alberta and the Yukon. He will be accompanied by departmental officials. The Minister's itinerary will include a visit to the new airport constructed at Yellowknife and from there to Whitehorse, Y.T. Inspection will be made of the different airports on the Northwest Airway System on the trip from Whitehorse to Edmonton.

The Northwest Airway System was built by Canada early in the war before the Alaskan Highway was contemplated and the facilities offered by the airports on this system made possible the construction of the highway in record time. With the recent announcement that Canada was contemplating the establishment of regular airline service across the Pacific, the importance of the Northwest Airway System has greatly increased.

**NAVAL APPOINTMENT** The appointment of Commander Eric E.G. Boak, D.S.C. R.C.N., Victoria, B.C., as executive officer of the Royal Canadian Navy's Air Section at Dartmouth, N.S., was announced at Naval Service Headquarters. Commander Boak, who was promoted to his present rank earlier last month, has been navigating officer of the aircraft carrier "Warrior" since July 1946, transferring to the R.C.N.'s new flat-top "Magnificent" when "Warrior" was returned to the Royal Navy this spring

**GOLD PRODUCTION** Production of gold in Canada in May totalled 285,566 fine ounces compared with 286,065 in April and 268,910 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. During the first five months of this year the output totalled 1,394,308 fine ounces compared with 1,244,832 in the similar period of 1947.

**RCAF SANCTIONS DOUBLE WINGS** It has been decided that all RCAF aircrew are to wear double wings in the future. The new wings will be similar to the familiar Air Force pilots' wings. RCAF Headquarters, Ottawa, has announced that radio-officers and radio-navigators, who together with pilots, make up the present peacetime aircrew list, are to wear double wings, resembling those worn by pilots, but with distinctive centres indicating the aircrew branch.

First of the new radio-officers' wings have been awarded to classes which graduated from the RCAF's radio school at Clinton, Ontario. In place of the letters "RCAF" the centre of the pilots' wings, the radio-officers' brevet has three red flashes upon a black background. A similar wing, with a blue globe in the centre and one red flash, has been designed for radio-navigators.

Aircrew of the peacetime RCAF who have previously earned single wings will retain them until they have been trained as pilots, radio-officers or radio-navigators. In this way the now obsolete single wings will disappear gradually from use in the RCAF

**MILITARY JOURNALISM** An interesting development in Canada's publishing industry is the steady rise in the number of military journals, despite demobilization after the war of all but a small fraction of the armed forces. Official, semi-official and independent magazines and papers of all types are now being published from coast to coast--testifying to a greater interest in military affairs than was the case in this country prior to the recent war.

In the Army, leaving out magazines and regimental papers, there are now four official papers - "The Sapper", published by Army engineers at Chilliwack, "District News", which covers Western Command news, the "Shilo Observer", which acts as official organ for the gunners in Canada and the newest in the group, the "Camp Borden Citizen", which has just commenced publication.

**ROBERT BOUCHARD APPOINTMENT** The Honourable James A MacKinnon, Minister of Mines and Resources, announced August 6 that the Civil Service Commission has authorized the appointment of Robert Bouchard, of Montreal, as Administrative Officer with headquarters at Aklavik, Northwest Territories. Mr Bouchard will be responsible for Departmental activities in and around Aklavik and will act as liaison officer with other Governmental agencies in the district.

**SAWN LUMBER PRODUCTION** Production of sawn lumber, excluding sawn ties, amounted to 504,601 M feet in May compared with 353,349 M in the preceding month and 448,623 M in the corresponding month last year