

300-FOOT RADIO TOWERS: The Army will construct two 300-foot steel radio transmitter towers at Yellowknife, NWT, this summer, Army authorities said on April 18.

Materials for the towers, including some 70 tons of steel, have already been delivered over a temporary winter road running from Hay River to Yellowknife.

The towers will replace others erected when the station was opened as part of the Army's Northwest Territories and Yukon Radio System in 1936.

Construction of similar towers has been completed by Army Signals personnel at Edmonton, Alta., and at Fort Smith, Fort Simpson and Norwan Wells in the Territories.

LT.-GEN. REVERS' VISIT: On the eve of his departure from Montreal after a three-day visit to Quebec City and Ottawa, Lt.-Gen. Georges Revers, Chief of the General Staff of the French Army, received the following message from the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton:

"At the conclusion of your important visit in Canada I wish to express to you the pleasure and honour you have bestowed upon us. We have had frank conferences, both useful and important, on all questions of common interest to France and Canada in the establishment of security and of a lasting peace. Your visit will help to strengthen the bond between our two countries. Personally it was a great pleasure to me to renew our acquaintance which has now become a cordial friendship. With my best wishes for a safe return to your beautiful France and the hope that you will have an opportunity to return soon to Canada."

General Revers left Montreal by air Saturday, April 16.

AIR-ATTACHE IN BRUSSELS: The Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, has announced the appointment of Wing Commander R.F. Douglas, of Hamilton, Ont., as Air-Attaché in Brussels, Belgium, replacing Wing Commander H.M. Kennedy, AFC, of Winnipeg and Ottawa. W/C Douglas reported to Air Force Headquarters April 14, and will proceed to Brussels in the early summer.

STORE SALES UP 29 P.C.: Department store sales advanced 29 per cent during the week ending April 9 over the corresponding period last year, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. Largest gain of 38 per cent was shown in Saskatchewan, followed by Alberta with 33 per cent, Manitoba and the Maritime Provinces each 32 per cent, Quebec 31 per cent, Ontario 26 per cent and British Columbia 24 per cent.

CANADA-U.S. LABOUR EXCHANGE: The Minister of Labour, Mr. Mitchell, on April 20, announced the renewal of last year's agreement covering the exchange of farm labour and farm machinery between Canada and the United States.

The Minister stated that this agreement provided for a possible movement of Canadian combines and operators to the United States for the harvest. However, he referred to his statement of April 5, when he had pointed out that United States officials were unable to estimate whether Canadian combines would be needed below the border this summer. The number of local combines in the United States was greater than in previous years, and unless some unforeseen emergency arose, the need for Canadian combines was not likely to be pressing.

Mr. Mitchell added that a meeting of United States and Canadian farm labour officials would be held in Oklahoma City late in April. Until the results of the meeting were known, Canadian farmers who had combines should not anticipate a demand for their services in the United States this year.

SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY: The value of production from Canadian shipyards in 1947 amounted to \$110,131,000 as compared with \$91,851,000 in the preceding year and \$204,594,000 in 1945. The 74 shipyards included in the industry employed an average of 21,119 workers in 1947 and paid out \$46,458,000 in salaries and wages, \$37,264,000 for materials for shipbuilding and \$1,654,000 for fuel and electricity. The 24 establishments on the west coast with production at \$28,598,000 accounted for 26 per cent of the total for Canada, and the 10 yards in Quebec with output at \$49,339,000 accounted for 45 per cent, the Bureau of Statistics reports.

STRUCTURAL STEEL WORK: Gross value of work performed by concerns in the bridge building and structural steel work industry in 1947 amounted to \$52,559,258, an increase of 31 per cent over the preceding year's figure of \$40,122,695, according to the annual report issued by the Bureau of Statistics.

This industry includes all concerns which were occupied chiefly in fabricating or erecting steel for bridges, buildings, etc., and in 1947 covered the operations of 26 plants. These firms gave employment to a monthly average of 7,178 workers, who were paid \$16,132,591 in salaries and wages, as compared with 25 plants which employed 6,091 persons earning \$12,825,390 in 1946.

Principal products of the industry were as follows: 8,098 tons of bridges at \$1,955,464; 146,663 tons of other structural work, such as buildings, transmission towers, etc., at \$29,520,402; plate and tank work at \$3,269,317; and mechanical work, including cranes, trolleys, etc., at \$1,467,089.

AVIATION MEDICINE COURSE: Thirty-four private physicians who carry out flying-fitness examinations for Canadian airplane pilots will be given an intensive course in the latest developments in aviation medicine at a special school to be held in Toronto from April 25 to 30.

This was announced on April 21 by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, who said that the school is the first known to be presented to purely civilian examiners in any country. Organized by Dr. H.E. Wilson, Chief of the National Health Department's Division of Civil Aviation Medicine, it is being conducted in co-operation with the Department of Transport and the Royal Canadian Air Force. Lectures will be given at the R.C.A.F.'s Institute of Aviation Medicine in Toronto where special equipment will be available for demonstrations.

SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED

Among the subjects to be covered in the course are air sickness, oxygen requirements and supply, the air transport of the sick, the relationship between crash injury and cockpit design, night vision, altitude sickness, the latest developments in aviation medical research, and the assessment of pilots' abilities in terms of physical and mental factors.

Lecturers will include: Dr. C.P. Fenwick, Medical Director, Canadian Pacific Airlines, Montreal; Dr. K.E. Dowd, Medical Director, Trans-Canada Airlines, Montreal; Dr. J.W. Tice, Past President of the International Aero Medical Association, Hamilton; G/C A.A.G. Corbet, Director of Health Services, R.C.A.F., Ottawa; Dr. C.G. Stogdill, Chief, Mental Health Division, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa; W/C B.R. Brown, Officer Commanding, Institute of Aviation Medicine, Toronto; Dr. M.G. Whillans, Secretary, Defence Research Board, Ottawa; Professor W.R. Franks, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto; Dr. J.K.W. Ferguson, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto; Dr. F.A.L. Mathewson, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg; Dr. J.J. Green, Air Transport Board, Ottawa; Dr. A.J. Elliot, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto; Dr. J.S. Crawford, Toronto; Dr. G. Manning, Faculty of Medicine, University of Western Ontario, London; Dr. G. Cloutier, Surgical Consultant for the Division of Civil Aviation Medicine, Montreal; Dr. J.A. Sullivan, Consulting Otologist for the Institute of Aviation Medicine, Toronto; W. Hodges, Physics Department, University of Toronto, and Dr. H.E. Wilson, Ottawa.

Dr. F. deTavel will speak on international aspects of Civil Aviation Medicine.

This course is the first of three planned for this year, Mr. Martin said. Enrolment is limited to doctors appointed by the Department of Transport to give medical examination to airplane pilots. Private pilots, he explained, must undergo a medical examination every 12 months and commercial and airline pilots every six months.

COAL OUTPUT UP: With substantial increases in Alberta and British Columbia and the Yukon, and a minor gain in New Brunswick, Canadian production of coal rose slightly more than two per cent in March over the same month last year. Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan registered the only declines. Imports were down 44 per cent.

Preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics place the all-Canada output at 1,701,000 tons as compared with 1,658,699 a year ago. During the first three months of this year, production rose to 5,202,000 tons as against 4,210,171 in the same period last year. Imports during the month fell to 670,748 tons from 1,206,756 in March 1948, and in the cumulative period to 2,369,355 tons from 3,410,557.

Mines in Alberta produced 783,000 tons in March this year as compared with 704,071 a year earlier. Total for British Columbia and Yukon was 179,000 tons compared with 126,179, Nova Scotia 500,500 (585,147), Saskatchewan 199,000 (206,967), and New Brunswick 39,500 (36,335).

WHEAT STOCKS: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on April 7 amounted to 126,911,000 bushels, showing a decline of 3,826,000 from the total for March 31, but a gain of 39,764,000 over last year's corresponding total, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

Farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 1,287,300 bushels of wheat during the week ending April 7 as compared with 732,700 in the corresponding week last year. Clearances for export amounted to 3,384,400 bushels, more than double last year's total of 1,592,800.

PRODUCTION OF NAILS: Production of iron and steel wire nails in February amounted to 6,540 tons, down from the 7,193 tons turned out in January, but above last year's corresponding total of 5,670 tons, according to the Bureau of Statistics. During the first two months of this year, 13,733 tons were produced as against 12,524 in the similar period last year.

Shipments during the month fell to 6,610 tons from 8,524 in January, but increased slightly over the 6,408 tons shipped a year ago. This brought the cumulative total for the two months of this year to 15,134 tons as against 13,619 in the same period of 1948.

NAVAL LIAISON OFFICER: Captain Owen C.S. Robertson, G.M., R.D., R.C.N., 42, of Montreal and Victoria, has been appointed Senior Canadian Naval Liaison Officer, London, and Commanding Officer of H.M.C.S. "Niobe", depot ship for R.C.N. personnel in the United Kingdom, it was announced on April 20 at Naval Headquarters.