

ICAO Measurement Plan: Substantial progress toward producing a single set of dimensional units for use along the world's airways was announced on June 9 by the International Civil Aviation Organization. So far, 34 of the Organization's 52 member nations have agreed to take the first step in a plan designed to relieve the confusion in air-ground radio communication caused by the differing systems of measurement now employed in various countries. ICAO officials point out that, although this problem of weights and measures and distances being expressed in different units is not peculiar to aviation, the danger of a mistake or misunderstanding due to a multiplicity of measuring units is probably more real and more important to the pilots and crews of aircraft in flight than to anyone else.

The ICAO standardization plan consists of an agreement on five tables of units incorporating elements of both the metric and the foot-pound-second systems.

Industrial Employment: Industrial employment in Canada showed the customary seasonal contraction in volume between March 1 and April 1, but at the latter date was at a higher level than for any previous year for which monthly statistics have been compiled, according to the Bureau of Statistics. The aggregate payrolls reported were also substantially above a year earlier, but slightly down from March 1 this year.

Data tabulated by the Bureau from 20,073 of the larger establishments in the eight major industrial divisions show a decline of 0.7 per cent in their working forces as compared with March 1. This decline conforms to the pattern indicated in 22 of the 28 previous years for which the Bureau has collected these figures, the Bureau's report states, but is rather below average in extent and decidedly smaller than recorded a year earlier.

McKee Trophy Award: The Minister of National Defence, will present the McKee Trans-Canada Trophy to Flying Officer R.B. West, DFC, AFC, of Medford, N.S., during the afternoon of Air Force Day at Rockcliffe, Saturday, June 11, it was announced on June 9 by Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa. The award of the trophy to F/O West, for his contribution to Canadian aviation during 1948, was announced recently.

Geographical Bureau Chief: The appointment of Dr. James W. Watson as Chief of the Geographical Bureau was announced on June 8 by the Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. Gibson. He comes to Ottawa on extended leave from the Faculty of Science at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.

Across Canada: The Progressive Conservatives retained the provincial riding of Cochrane North in yesterday's by-election caused by the death of the former Progressive Conservative member of the Ontario Legislature.... The strike of the Canadian Seamen's Union was ruled illegal yesterday by the British Columbia Supreme Court....The basis for the foregoing items are Canadian Press reports.