

to give parents and boys every chance this first year of taking advantage of the opportunities extended".

"We want boys of good physical and educational qualifications", the Minister continued, "suitable to make first-class officers in the Active or Reserve forces of the three services".

For both colleges there will be a number of Dominion cadetships available to sons of men who were killed on active service, and also scholarships awarded on the basis of academic qualifications, Mr. Claxton announced. He estimated that pay for work in the summer months will practically cover the cost of tuition in the second or subsequent years.

Both service colleges will first and foremost be educational institutions where serious work is done to obtain high qualifications in the courses necessary to a good education of university standard. During the college terms there will be a minimum of military subjects with full-time work with the Navy, Army and Air Force during the summer.

NEW BADGE OF RANK: The Regimental Sergeant Major soon will be wearing a new badge of rank -- one that for the first time in the history of the Canadian Army will be distinctively Canadian in design. In describing the badge, Ottawa authorities said it is more colorful than, and differs greatly from the badge now being worn which is of Imperial design.

Design of the new badge has just been approved by the Minister of National Defence and issue will be made in the near future.

On the badge is embroidered the Canadian coat of arms supported on the left by a silver lion rampant holding a lance bearing the Union Jack, and on the right by a silver unicorn holding a lance bearing a blue banner charged with three gold fleur-de-lis. The Canadian coat of arms is surmounted by a silver Royal helmet mantled, and a silver lion passant guardant, imperially crowned and holding a red maple leaf in the right paw. The whole is ensigned with the Imperial crown proper and inscribed in gold on a blue scroll below is the motto, "A Mari Usque Ad Mare".

The badge is three inches high and two and a half inches wide. It will be worn by all Warrant Officers, Class I, replacing both the RSM's badge and Conductor's (RCOC) badge now in use.

WHEAT STOCKS: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on March 11 totalled 97,810,700 bushels compared with 102,099,900 on March 4 and 115,573,100 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Visible on the latest date comprised 94,427,600 bushels in Canadian positions and 3,383,100

in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending March 11 amounted to 861,800 bushels compared with 832,900 in the preceding week, bringing the total for the period August 1 - March 11 to 205,190,460 bushels compared with 257,179,200 in the similar period of the preceding crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending March 11, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 348,900 (324,500) bushels; barley, 189,300 (155,700); rye, 4,900 (4,100); flaxseed, 11,000 (15,500) bushels.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending March 11 amounted to 2,307,200 bushels compared with 1,940,200 in the corresponding week last year. Aggregate for the period August 1 to March 11 was 80,034,100 bushels compared with 88,292,900 in the like period of 1946-47. (DBS)

NEW AIR SERVICE: Trans-Canada Air Lines' service to Bermuda will commence May 1 with week-end flights originating in both Toronto and Montreal, it was announced here by G.R. McGregor, President of TCA. From Canada to Bermuda the elapsed time will be less than five hours using North Star aircraft.

There will be two flights weekly at the outset. One flight will leave Montreal on Saturday morning, will land at Bermuda and continue to Toronto, arriving there the same day. On Sundays, flights will leave Toronto for Bermuda and from there will continue to Montreal.

Mr. McGregor pointed out that the economy of Bermuda was dependent on its tourist trade and now that Canada found herself with a U.S. dollar shortage and her citizens unable to finance on American holiday of any duration, it was logical to complement the needs of both countries and commence a service at this time.

PETROLEUM ADVISOR: The Right Honourable C.D. Howe announced Monday the appointment of Mr. F.G. Cottle, Manager of Supply for Imperial Oil Limited, as technical advisor on petroleum products to the Department of Reconstruction and Supply.

"In view of the critical fuel oil situation", Mr. Howe said, "it is considered that the strongest possible efforts should be made to insure adequate supplies of petroleum products. Mr. Cottle is well fitted to assist the Government in these efforts, having served as Deputy Oil Administrator in the Oil Controller's Office during the war. I have, therefore, asked him to assume this responsibility, and he has agreed to accept the appointment without remuneration."

Mr. Howe stated that, in the course of his duties, Mr. Cottle would represent the Depart-

ment of Reconstruction and Supply at discussions in Washington.

ARMY APPOINTMENTS: New appointments involving two well-known officer-brothers of the Canadian Army were announced Wednesday by the Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence.

Lt.-Col. R.L. Purves, DSO, 36, formerly of Victoria, B.C., relinquishes his present appointment as Director, Army Budget, to accept a new appointment as Director, Royal Canadian Armoured Corps.

Lt.-Col. Donald F. Purves, MBE, 41, also of Victoria, returns to the Army in that rank to take over his brother's former post as Director of the Army Budget.

EXPORTS UP: Canada's merchandise export trade in February was valued at \$208,300,000, showing an increase of 16 per cent over last year's corresponding total of \$179,500,000, but off 11.5 per cent from the January figure of \$235,400,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first two months of this year, merchandise was exported to the value of \$443,700,000 compared with \$388,100,000 in the similar period of 1947, an increase of 14.3 per cent.

Adding to the rate of increase shown in January, Canadian exports to the United States rose nearly 37 per cent in February over last year as against 32 per cent in the previous month, advancing to \$94,816,000 compared with 69,396,000, and bringing the two-month total to \$199,815,000 as against \$148,749,000 in the like period of 1947. February shipments to the United Kingdom were valued at \$51,660,000, up 15 per cent over last year; for the two months, January and February, the total advanced from \$95,335,000 to \$116,608,000.

Belgium and France were Canada's next largest customers in February, shipments to Belgium being valued at \$4,731,000 as compared with \$4,161,000 a year ago, and to France at \$4,186,000 compared with \$5,395,000. Italy was next in order with shipments totalling \$3,448,000 compared with \$2,010,000, followed by the Union of South Africa with purchases valued at \$3,216,000 compared with \$5,721,000.

Other countries which took Canadian goods to the value of more than one million dollars in February were as follows, totals for February last year being in brackets: Newfoundland, \$2,510,000 (\$2,314,000); India and Pakistan, \$1,835,000 (\$1,171,000); Australia, \$2,720,000 (\$4,722,000); New Zealand, \$1,743,000 (\$1,158,000); Argentina, \$1,860,000 (\$3,760,000); Brazil, \$2,259,000 (\$2,352,000); Mexico, \$1,230,000 (\$776,000); Czechoslovakia, \$2,060,000 (\$574,000); Greece, \$2,329,000 (\$360,000); Netherlands, \$2,721,000 (\$3,983,000); China, \$2,565,000 (\$3,314,000); Egypt,

\$2,148,000 (\$1,082,000); Norway, \$1,163,000 (\$745,000); Switzerland, \$1,831,000 (\$1,036,000).

All commodity groups, with the exception of agricultural and vegetable products, showed increases in February over the same month last year. The decline in agricultural products was small, while the advances were substantial in the animals and animal products, wood and paper, and non-ferrous metals groups.

SIAMESE CLAIMS: The Department of External Affairs has been advised that the British Commonwealth Siamese Claims Committee is not prepared to receive claims against the Siamese Government in respect of property and personal injury sustained as a result of the war.

These claims are to be submitted under the terms of the formal agreement between the United Kingdom, India and Siam dated January 1, 1946, and of the final peace agreement between Australia and Siam dated April 3, 1946. In accordance with arrangements made with the United Kingdom authorities through the Commonwealth Relations Office, Canadian claimants are entitled to submit their claims to this department for transmission to the British Commonwealth Siamese Claims Committee in Bangkok.

Claimants must prepare their claims on the official claims form which will be supplied with notes for guidance on application to the Department of External Affairs. It should be noted that there is a separate form to be filled out in respect of property losses and personal injury or personal prejudice. All claims must be filed with the Siamese Government within eighteen months from the date of this announcement.

FISHERIES REPORT: An exceptionally large catch of herring in Pacific waters was the outstanding feature of Canada's commercial fishery operations during February. The herring for the most part was converted into meal for poultry and animal foods. The Atlantic Coast also enjoyed better fishing. The total value of landings in the four eastern provinces was \$710,000 compared with \$308,000 in February, 1947.

Total landings of fish and shellfish in the sea fisheries during February amounted to 99,362,000 pounds valued at \$1,694,000. The huge increase of 524 per cent in volume and 217 per cent in value over February 1947 was attributable to two main causes, the herring catch in British Columbia accounting for 81,475,000 pounds as against 6,502,000 and the continuance of normal operations on the Atlantic Coast whereas a year ago a strike of deep-sea fishermen was in progress. Total landings on the Pacific Coast amounted to 83,400,000 pounds valued at \$984,000. On the Atlantic Coast the total catch was greater in all provinces.