

## NATIONAL NOTES

Mr. Justice R.L. Kellock, of the Supreme Court of Canada, was appointed by the Cabinet on October 17 to arbitrate between the rail-ways and the unions in regard to remaining differences in matters of wages and hours.

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Plans to prepare a United Nations flag to fly on October 24, United Nations Day, have been announced by a committee of the Regina United Nations Association.

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Ten Arthritis and Rheumatism clinics in Toronto, Hamilton, London, Windsor, Kingston and Ottawa are to be equipped with special technical apparatus purchased with a federal health grant.

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Seven young men from the "lower deck" of the Royal Canadian Navy entered university this Fall under the plan which provides selected men with the opportunity to acquire educational qualifications required for promotion to commissioned rank.

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Flight trials of an F-86 fighter powered by the Canadian-built Orenda jet engine have commenced at the United States Air Force Base at Muroc Dry Lake, California. The initial flight of the fighter fitted with the powerful Canadian power plant marks the opening of another phase in a test programme being carried out by the United States Air Force to determine further potentialities of the engine.

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Cars of revenue freight loaded on Canadian railways during the week ending October 7 totalled 89,273, showing a decline of 1,703 cars from the preceding week, but a slight rise over the 89,082 cars loaded in the corresponding week last year.

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Revenue freight carried by Canadian rail-ways in June totalled 12,521,819 tons, showing an increase of 10 per cent over the 11,411,-938 tons transported in the same month last year.

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A veteran fire investigator testified in Quebec City on October 18 that he believes the fire which destroyed the cruise ship Quebec last August was "set wilfully." The fire cost seven lives. The investigator-- Charles Hazen - is a Montreal chemist with thirty years' experience in fire investigation.

**NEW \$700,000,000 LOAN:** The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, announced on October 18 the issue of a new \$700,000,000 Government of Canada loan. This issue represents the second offering of securities by the Government this week, the first being the Fifth Series of Canada Savings Bonds which went on sale on Monday, October 16.

The proceeds of the new issue announced today, together with other resources, will be used by the Government for the redemption of two 1½% issues maturing on November 1, 1950 aggregating \$735,690,000 in amount.

The new issue consists of two maturities - 2-year 1½% bonds maturing November 1, 1952 and 5-year 8-month 2½% bonds maturing July 1, 1956. The short-term bonds are being offered at 99.70% to yield about 1.91% to maturity and the longer term bonds are being priced at 99 3/8% to yield about 2.37%.

Both bonds are non-callable to maturity. The interest on the 2-year bond is payable on May 1 and November 1. The interest on the 5-year 8-month bond is payable on July 1 and January 1, the first interest date being July 1, 1951. Both bonds will be offered in deno-minations of \$1000, \$5000, \$25,000, \$100,000 and \$1,000,000.

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**BANK RATE INCREASED:** The Bank of Canada has announced that the Board of Directors decided at a meeting on October 16 to increase the Bank Rate, effective October 17, to 2 per cent from the 1½ per cent level established on February 8, 1944.

At the time the reduction in Bank Rate took place in 1944, the Bank expressed the view that it did not then see any prospect of an economic situation in the post-war period of a character which would call for a policy of raising interest rates. The change to a 2% Bank Rate is an indication that the earlier view no longer holds good under today's conditions when Canada faces the prospect of sub-stantially increased defence expenditures adding to the pressure on the country's re-sources at a time of virtually full employment.

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**WHEAT STOCKS.** Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on October 5 were slightly below last year's correspond-ing total. Deliveries from farms in the Prairie Provinces were higher during the week, but overseas export clearances moved to lower levels.

Visible supplies on October 5 amounted to 172,821,000 bushels as compared with 174,854,-000 a year earlier, and deliveries from farms totalled 20,758,000 bushels compared with 19,330,000. Overseas export clearances amounted to 3,669,500 bushels as against 4,323,900.