

MR. HOWE TO U.S. TOOL ENGINEERS: The following is an excerpt from the address by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe, to the American Society of Tool Engineers, in Montreal on October 29:

"...American industry has a very considerable stake in Canada in the form of branch plants. By the end of 1948, the value of United States direct investments in Canada totalled 2 billion 700 million dollars, of which one billion 600 million dollars were invested in Canadian manufacturing concerns, controlled in the United States. Total United States investments in Canada are about 5 billion dollars, and it may be of interest that this investment pays a bigger cash return to American investors than all other American investments abroad put together. Some 2,000 American companies and branches are now established in this country, of which over 1,000 are engaged in manufacturing.

"We hope that more American companies will avail themselves of the favourable conditions for investment in Canada that follow the recent exchange devaluation. Such a move would be welcomed here, if only as a means of correcting our unbalanced U.S. dollar position.

"Another exchange between our two countries which we both can welcome, is the exchange of brains, - technicians, engineers, and economists. I am not one of those who has been alarmed by rumours that Canadian brains are being drained off to other countries. True, many Canadians go to the United States to do post-graduate work, or to find employment in industry. However, only one out of ten engineers, graduated from the largest Canadian Universities, is now living outside Canada. This loss of one in ten of Canadian trained personnel is more than compensated for by the American and British talent that we have imported. Approximately two of every ten of our technical personnel has been recruited from abroad.

"No other two nations enjoy to their mutual benefit such a constant interchange and fluidity of scientific knowledge and of technical personnel. We are proud of Canadians who are making their contribution to American industry, and feel that for one reason or another, these benefits return to us in some form. Equally, we are glad to have American technicians making a contribution to our industrial expansion. A splendid example of such a contribution is found in the many Americans assisting us in the Alberta oil development..."

ICAO MONTREAL MEETING: The writing of specifications for a system of aerodrome approach and runway lighting designed to lead a pilot safely on to a runway during adverse conditions of weather and visibility is one of the objectives of the Fourth Session of the International Civil Aviation Organization's Aerodromes, Air Routes and Ground Aids Division, which met in Montreal on November 1.

ICAO officials point out that a reliable system of approach lighting for international airports, together with radio navigation aids, will make it possible for airliners to fly safely in weather conditions which now keep them grounded, and will therefore greatly improve the regularity of air transportation by doing away with a large percentage of trip cancellations. Much work has been done on approach and runway lighting since the end of the war, work aimed at producing lighting systems which can be seen from the air through murk and fog, and which will bring aircraft coming in for a landing to the edge of the aerodrome correctly lined up with the runway in use. Several completely different experimental systems will be considered by the technical experts of some twenty nations and international organizations at the meeting which begins today.

The Aerodromes Division will also concern itself with the preparation of international standards for the lighting of water aerodromes, so that seaplane pilots of any nation may expect to find familiar facilities wherever they land. Other items on the agenda include the setting of specifications for the colours of aerodrome lights and surface markings, and for the minimum power supply needed at aerodromes for emergency purposes.

EXAMINE REFUGEES AT CORK: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. Gibson, announced on October 31 that, due to the kindness of the Government of Ireland, an arrangement has been made whereby the refugees on the motor vessel "Victory" now at Cork en route from Sweden to Halifax will be examined by Canadian immigration officers at Cork.

Those refugees found acceptable will be granted immigration visas, and those refused visas will not come forward, Col. Gibson said. The Irish Government will extend all possible assistance to the Canadian officers conducting the examinations.

The purpose of the arrangement is to prevent lengthy detention at Halifax and the hardship involved in returning inadmissible immigrants to Europe, the Minister stated.

Three hundred and seventy-two people, including 96 children ranging in age from four weeks to sixteen years, left Sweden on September 26 aboard the 316-ton "Victory", whose normal capacity is between 50 and 60 passengers. The vessel, which arrived in Cork on September 1, was prevented from leaving the Irish port because it was considered unseaworthy.

FACILITATE TRADE WITH ITALY: Trade between Canada and Italy may be carried on in future on either a United States dollar or a Canadian dollar basis, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, announced on October 31.

Heretofore exporters shipping to Italy have

been required to obtain payment in U.S. dollars. Under arrangements made with the Italian authorities, Italy is being designated as a "special arrangement" country as from November 1. Consequently Canadian dollars will also be acceptable in payment for exports to Italy.

The arrangements also will enable Canadians to obtain permits through their banks for the expenditure of any reasonable amounts of Canadian dollars for travel to Italy. Italy is thus placed on the same basis, so far as Canadian travellers are concerned, as France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and countries in the sterling area.

Previously, travel expenditures in Italy were in practice made in U.S. dollars and were therefore limited by the travel ration of \$150 U.S.

CBC SONG-WRITING CONTEST: In an attempt to overcome the scarcity of distinctive Canadian songs, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is launching a song-writing competition. Ira Dilworth, General Supervisor of the CBC's International Service, has announced. Immediately open to all composers domiciled in Canada, the competition which is sponsored by the International Service offers prizes totalling \$2500 to composers of the best ten Canadian songs entered in this event.

"Constantly asked by broadcasting organizations in other countries for Canadian songs, International Service has been embarrassed by their rarity", declared Mr. Dilworth. He said that by encouraging the broadest possible variety of entries in this competition he hopes to be able to broadcast more typically Canadian music overseas.

"Canadian music is more highly regarded by listeners overseas than most Canadians imagine", he said. "The instrumental compositions broadcast by the Voice of Canada have been generously acclaimed in other countries".

The basic idea of the competition was described by Mr. Dilworth as an endeavour to secure vocal settings of words by Canadian poets.

NEW GEIGER COUNTERS: A series of Geiger counters have been developed by the National Research Council since 1943 for use in locating uranium ore. In all, some twenty different models were made of which about six have been built in quantity including portable types suitable for geologists' use. Designs for these have been released for commercial development and counters patterned on three of the models have been sold in quantity by Electronics Associates in Toronto. Some of the earlier models were sent by the National Research Council to South Africa, England, New Zealand and Australia.

In addition to the portable models referred to above, a larger model, using a detector probe at the end of a 1000-ft. cable was developed for use in examining drill holes for radioactive materials. This is known as a "Diamond drill hole Geiger-Mueller counter", and is especially useful where diamond drilling goes through strata in which the core easily crumbles and is lost. One of the problems connected with such an instrument was the construction of a suitable probe which could be lowered into narrow, water filled, drill holes. Such a probe, completely moulded in rubber, has now been developed and tested in the field with satisfactory results. A full description of the apparatus has been published.

LT. GEN. FOULKES TO VISIT U.S.: The Department of National Defence announced on November 1 that Lt. General Charles Foulkes, Chief of the General Staff, Canadian Army, who is also Chairman of the Canadian Joint Chiefs of Staff, has accepted an invitation extended by General Collins, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, to visit the United States as a guest of the U.S. Army and to accompany the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, in connection with the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference being held on November 4 and 5, 1949.

It is expected that Gen. Foulkes will arrive at the National Airport at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 3, 1949, in a Royal Canadian Air Force military aircraft. Gen. Foulkes will accompany General Bradley and the Joint Chiefs of Staff in a U.S. military aircraft to Fort Benning on the morning of Friday, November 4, and will return to Washington the evening of Saturday, November 5. It is understood that General Foulkes will return to Ottawa on Sunday, November 6.

AID ONTARIO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE: Mental health services in Ontario are to be extended by enlargements of staff, purchase of new equipment and the training of additional specialists the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, said on November 2. The expanded services will be financed through federal health grants.

Federal funds have been allotted to provide four additional psychiatric social workers for the Toronto Psychiatric Hospital. This hospital has about 2,500 out-patients and 600 in-patients per year. The extra social workers will extend the present social services required for the care and rehabilitation of these patients. Money has also been set aside to buy visual training equipment for the use of students taking postgraduate training in mental health at the Toronto Psychiatric Hospital.