

the role that Canada has played as a major power in multilateral discussions with aviation matters.

With regard to this role of Canada's, he continued, "It was partially in recognition of Canada's importance in this field, and a tribute to the rôle that Canada is playing, that led to the selection of this country as the headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization."

Mr. Chevrier said that Canada's developments of air traffic facilities is a record unmatched by any other member state other than the United States because of that country's larger number of airports.

The Minister stated that in the future development of international air transport facilities, the national security aspect had to be included in long range planning. He said that the facilities provided for civil aviation could be utilized for military purposes in the event of emergency.

"For these various reasons," he said, "the Government has found it desirable in the national interest to provide for the development of air services and the ancillary facilities in Canada on a reasonable and efficient basis and at the same time to exercise close supervision over this development both in the domestic and international field."

In the improved construction aspect of these developments, Mr. Chevrier dwelt on the safety features of air travel. He said, "We have added to the safety of air travel, and increased the ability of air lines to fly in all types of Canadian weather and to maintain regular schedules under difficult conditions."

"Probably the most interesting development has been the introduction of the Instrument Landing System. This system, while not a complete blind landing device, is installed to permit accurate and safe approaches to airports during conditions of low ceiling and poor visibility, and provides for safe landings in weather conditions which would have been considered impossible a few years ago."

He said that 23 installations of the Instrument Landing System are expected for 16 of the bigger airports. Eleven of these were already in operation and the balance were being installed.

APPRENTICESHIP BOOKLET: Publication of a descriptive booklet on Apprenticeship in Canada has been announced by the Minister of Labour, Mr. Mitchell.

The booklet was prepared by the Training Branch of the Department of Labour and was designed as a descriptive, rather than a critical analysis of the subject of apprenticeship, the Minister explained.

The booklet contains, among other subjects, sections on Government apprenticeship training plans in Canada, industrial plans, and basic principles of apprenticeship. Outlines of the systems of apprenticeship in Great Britain,

South Africa, New Zealand, United States and Australia are also included.

Much of the information in the booklet was compiled through the co-operation of the Provincial Directors of Apprenticeship and the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

MORE THAN 3,700,000 MEDALS: The amount of work that has gone into the minting of medals, campaign stars, clasps and oak leaves -- the eagerly awaited Service decorations of hundreds of thousands of Canadian men and women -- is revealed in figures released this week at Ottawa.

They show that to suitably reward all Canadians who served during the Second World War, more than 3,700,000 decorations must be turned out by the Royal Canadian Mint at Ottawa.

As almost everyone who enlisted for "active service" is entitled to the War Medal, some 1,060,000 have been ordered. For sheer numbers this is rivalled only by the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal of which 900,000 medals and 524,000 clasps -- denoting service outside of Canada -- are being struck.

Other decorations and the number on order at the Mint, are: 1939-45 Star, 288,000; Atlantic Star, 40,000; Africa Star, 12,000; Pacific Star, 10,250; Burma Star, 5,200; Italy Star, 102,500; France-Germany Star, 250,000; Defence Medal, 460,000, and the Air Crew Europe Star, 12,000.

DRILLING FOR FUELS: Contract drilling for petroleum, natural gas and other fuels in Canada during 1947 increased sharply over the previous year, while diamond drilling of mineral deposits (other than fuels) fell substantially below both 1946 and 1945.

Excluding drilling done by oil companies with their own equipment, the footage drilled totalled 1,253,794 as compared with 570,948 in 1946, according to the annual detailed report by the Bureau of Statistics. Sixty-two contractors reported drilling during the year, with income from operations amounting to \$7,484,243 compared with \$2,536,175 reported for 1946. Their employees numbered 1,020 and wages and salaries paid totalled \$2,063,629.

During 1947 there were 48 firms engaged in contract diamond drilling of mineral deposits other than fuels, compared with 62 operators in 1946.

WHEAT MARKETINGS: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on January 27 amounted to 161,473,000 bushels, showing a decline of 3,795,000 bushels from the January 20 figure of 165,268,000, but up 36,974,000 bushels over last year's corresponding total of 124,499,000 bushels.

WHEAT EXPORTS UP: Canada's exports of wheat and of wheat flour in terms of wheat during the five months of the 1948-49 crop year ending December 31, show an increase over the similar period of the preceding crop year, totalling 83 million bushels as against 77.4 million bushels, reports the Bureau of Statistics.

The gain in the aggregate was due to substantially increased shipments of the grain. These amounted to 59.6 million bushels compared with 48.2 million in the 1947-48 period. Exports of wheat flour fell off to the equivalent of 23.4 as against 29.5 million bushels.

Shipments of wheat were made to eight British and 13 foreign countries during last five months of 1948. Exports to the United Kingdom accounted for four-fifths of the total, at 48,315,000 bushels. Destinations of next largest quantities were: Italy, 2,449,764 bushels; India, 2,126,232; Egypt, 1,718,248; Norway, 957,830; Union of South Africa, 909,329; Malta, 897,848; Eire, 687,067; Switzerland, 600,000 bushels.

Wheat flour was exported in large and small quantities during the period to no less than 71 different countries, 22 being British and 49 foreign. As in the case of wheat, the United Kingdom was the major destination for flour, with shipments equal to 10,154,021 bushels of wheat. Trinidad and Tobago with 1,099,454 and Newfoundland with 919,310 bushels equivalent were next among British countries, while Italy with 2,159,568, Philippine Islands with 1,280,196, Syria with 1,818,036 and Venezuela with 895,689 bushels were the top destinations among foreign countries. Other larger purchases of Canadian flour were Hong Kong, Pakistan, Jamaica, Leeward and Windward Islands, Union of South Africa, British Guiana, Barbados and Palestine.

BELGIAN AMBASSADOR: The Department of External Affairs announced on February 8 that Vicomte du Parc presented on that day to His Excellency the Governor General at Government House his Letter of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Belgium in Canada.

Mr. Pearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs, was present. Baron Pierre de Gaiffier d'Hestroy, First Secretary of the Belgian Embassy, and Major J.A. Ducq, Military and Air Attache, accompanied the Ambassador. Mr. Howard Measures, Chief of Protocol, Department of External Affairs, presented Vicomte du Parc to His Excellency the Governor General.

Vicomte du Parc was born in Brussels in 1892. He is a Doctor of Law of the University of Louvain. He served in the Belgian Army during the First Great War and was seriously wounded. Vicomte du Parc entered the Diplomatic Service of his country in 1920 and he served in posts abroad as well as at the Belgian Foreign Office. He took an active part in United Nations conferences, in particular

U.N.R.R.A. and the Commission on Food and Agriculture.

Prior to his present appointment as Belgian Ambassador in Canada, Vicomte du Parc was Minister of Belgium in Sweden.

IRON AND STEEL RECORD: Canada's iron and steel mills operated at near-capacity levels in 1948 to produce record tonnages of steel, pig iron and ferro-alloys.

Preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics place the year's output of steel ingots and castings combined at 3,202,000 tons, well above the preceding year's total of 2,945,000 tons and three per cent higher than the wartime peak of 3,110,000 tons in 1942. The current total compares with 1,294,000 tons in 1938.

The year's output of pig iron amounted to 2,121,000 tons compared with 1,970,000 tons in the preceding year and 1,975,000 tons in 1942--the previous high figure. The total for 1948 was close to three times the tonnage turned out in 1938.

The output of ferro-alloys also moved up sharply in 1948, totalling 251,000 tons compared with 150,000 tons in 1947, and 209,000 tons in 1942, the highest of the war years. Production last year was four times the 1938 total of 63,000 tons.

PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH: Research into the spread and control of infantile paralysis, studies of methods of obtaining information on illness in a community, and ways of reducing infant and maternal deaths will be financed with funds from the federal health grants, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, announced on February 9.

The infantile paralysis research will be directed by Dr. Andrew J. Rhodes of the Connaught Medical Research Laboratory, Toronto, and will concentrate on a study of methods of recovering polio virus from infected sewage and water of various types, the survival period of the polio virus, and the prevalence of polio infection in sewage between epidemics. Total cost of the research project is expected to be about \$20,000.

Mr. Martin said that a research grant has also been made to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Toronto, for a study of ways of eliminating eclamptic toxæmia as a cause of maternal deaths.

"In Manitoba the provincial Department of Health and Public Welfare will undertake field and laboratory studies to locate ground water supplies containing nitrate in sufficient quantities to cause methemoglobinemia in infants," the Minister said.

The East York-Leaside Health Unit, just outside Toronto, has been awarded a grant to finance a study of methods of obtaining information on morbidity or the ratio between sick