

CANADIAN ELECTED: K.T. McLeod, Canadian representative to the meeting of the Commission for Maritime Meteorology of the World Meteorological Organization held recently at Hamburg, Germany, has been elected vice-president of the Commission. Mr. McLeod is Superintendent of Public Weather in the Department of Transport's Meteorological Branch, Toronto.

Delegates from 29 countries were present at the sessions which dealt with world-wide reporting systems and procedures in the field of maritime meteorology and Mr. McLeod was chairman of the committee on technical problems.

One of the important items considered was air observations from merchant ships to supplement the work of the ocean weather ships in areas where upper air observations are badly needed. Canada has at present arranged for reports from 45 ships in addition to the weather ships which it operates on the Pacific Coast, and is taking increasing interest in the reporting programme on Arctic sea ice conditions.

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SETTING NEW RECORD: Spearheaded by substantial increases in oil and uranium production, the value of Saskatchewan's mineral output this year is expected to exceed one hundred million dollars. Estimated for 1956 is a total mineral production value of \$111,623,584 --nearly double the actual production value recorded only two years ago.

Actual total production value in that year --1954--was \$65,818,550, while in 1955 the total rose to \$85,342,790.

"The value of uranium production this year is expected to nearly double the 1955 figure," Hon. J.H. Brockelbank, Minister of Mineral Resources, said in announcing his Department's forecast. This, he said, together with a large increase in the value of crude oil production, was mainly responsible for the new record figure.

"We have kept our estimates on the conservative side," Mr. Brockelbank added.

Greatest gain in the past two years was shown in crude oil sales, which jumped from \$8,182,346 in 1954 to \$17,480,043 in 1955, and this year the figure is expected to reach \$28,600,000.

Uranium to the value of \$27,000,000 is expected to be produced during 1956, compared with \$11,058,544 in 1954 and \$14,293,000 in 1955. This increase is accounted for by the Gunnar Mines operation at Beaverlodge and the increase in the Eldorado mill capacity.

Saskatchewan's sales of natural gas in 1954 brought \$310,072, and in 1955 reached a total of \$560,695. This year, it is estimated that eighteen billion cubic feet of gas will be sold for a total of \$1,000,000.

Estimated 1956 value of production in the case of all minerals except cadmium, gold and silver indicated increases from the 1955 figures.

Total value of metallic minerals for 1956, --including cadmium, copper, gold, selenium and tellurium, silver, uranium and zinc--was estimated at \$70,104,103, compared with a total of \$55,810,353 in 1955 and \$46,788,250 in 1954.

Total value of non-metallics, including salt and sodium sulphate, is estimated at \$3,916,084 for 1956, compared with \$3,776,013 in 1955 and \$3,498,594 in 1954.

Estimated 1956 value of fuel production, including coal, natural gas and petroleum, was placed at \$34,078,397, up from the \$22,347,033 in 1955 and \$12,722,282 in 1954.

The fourth group, structural materials--including clay products and raw clay, sand and gravel, and quartz flux--was placed at an estimated 1956 production value of \$3,525,000, compared with \$3,409,391 in 1955 and \$2,809,424 in 1954.

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FISHWAYS PROJECT STARTED: The International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission has started construction of fishways on the Fraser River near Yale, British Columbia, at the site of the obstruction which was discovered in 1955 during the passage of the Early Stuart and Bowron River sockeye runs. Two structures are planned for the west bank of the river at a point three miles upstream from Yale. One will be a formal concrete fishway 88 feet long of the Hell's Gate type and the other will be a baffled shallow cut 80 feet long through a bed rock ledge. The total cost of the fishways is estimated to be \$45,000 and will be shared equally by the Governments of Canada and the United States. Right-of-way and land have been provided by the Canadian Departments of Fisheries and Indian Affairs.

The two points of obstruction, in one of the most rugged sections of the Fraser River canyon, were discovered early in July 1955 at a time when river levels were unusually high due to a delayed run-off in the Fraser River. It was found that the sockeye runs migrating up river at that time were blocked or seriously delayed for an eleven-day period during which river levels ranged between gauge 70 and 74 at Hell's Gate, fifteen miles upstream. Only 2,170 sockeye survived to reach the spawning grounds on the Stuart River system out of an expected escapement of 30,000 to 50,000 fish and the Bowron River escapement was only about one-half the size expected. It is estimated that the 1955 block at Yale will result in a loss of \$400,000 to the industry on that cycle year before the affected runs can be re-established.