

"ARMY WEEK" IN MAY: "Army Week" -- which last year saw some 50,000 members of the Active and Reserve Forces of the Army play host to more than 6,000,000 interested visitors and spectators at elaborate military displays across the country -- will be held this year from May 15 to 22, it has been announced at Ottawa.

This year, as last, all Army camps, armories and establishments will be thrown open to the public.

A huge success last year, "Army Week" was inaugurated to give Canadians in all parts of the country a chance to meet men of the Army; to see how they live and work, and to understand some of the constructive jobs they perform in their peacetime role.

CANADIAN TROOPS IN UK: Under a reciprocal agreement between Canada and the United Kingdom, Canadian Army personnel on duty, leave or pass in the UK now are eligible for full medical treatment in either service or civilian hospitals or clinics without cost to themselves or to the Canadian public.

Similarly, British armed forces personnel are afforded the same medical treatment free of charge here in Canada.

Canada formerly was charged at the rate of 10 shillings (\$2) per day for soldiers and 12 shillings (\$2.50) for officers treated in British service hospitals, and at prevailing rates for troops admitted to civilian institutions or treated by civilian doctors.

FRENCH DECORATIONS: Two officers and two non-commissioned officers of the wartime Canadian Postal Corps have been granted awards by the Republic of France "for outstanding service to the French cause during the Second World War," Army Headquarters has announced. All four are now in civilian life. They are:

Lt. Col. Robert A. Trotman, MBE, of Calgary, and Major J.R.C.A. Goulet of Hull, Que., who received the *Medaille de la Reconnaissance Francaise*, Argent;

Sgt. Jean-Marcel Richer de Lafleche, of Montreal, and Sgt. Lloyd A. Michener, of Regina, Sask., who received the *Medaille de la Reconnaissance*, Bronze.

RESTORE PRE-WAR NAMES: The 1st and 2nd Armoured Regiments, RCAC, of the Canadian Army Active Force have had their well known pre-war names restored to them.

Effective immediately the units now will be known as the Royal Canadian Dragoons (1st Armoured Regiment) and Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) (2nd Armoured Regiment).

A few weeks ago, a similar order restored pre-war designations to all armoured units of the Reserve Force.

WHEAT STOCKS: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on February 24 amounted to 145,455,000 bushels, a decrease of 4,091,000 bushels from the February 17 total, but a rise of 37,334,000 over the same date last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 24 were 720,000 bushels as compared with 557,000 a year ago. Overseas export clearances during the week totalled 3,258,000 bushels compared with 4,329,000.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 24, totals for the same week last year being in brackets: oats, 276,000 (214,000) bushels; barley, 314,000 (124,000); rye, 15,000 (10,000); flaxseed, 63,000 (9,000).

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES: Department store sales showed an increase of five per cent during the week ending February 26 over the same week last year, according to preliminary figures. Largest increase of 31 per cent was registered in Alberta. Rise in Manitoba was seven per cent, Ontario four per cent, and Quebec two per cent. The Maritimes and Saskatchewan had declines of one and two per cent, respectively. Percentage change for British Columbia is not available for the week.

NEW STAMP FOR NFLD. UNION: Details are now given by the Canada Post Office of the special 4-cent stamp, which the Postmaster General, Mr. Bertrand, has announced will be issued on April 1 to mark the entry of Newfoundland into Canadian Confederation.

The stamp will bear a reproduction of the famous ship "Matthew" the 50-ton vessel in which John Cabot sailed from Bristol, England, in 1497, when he sighted the "New Found Land", which he claimed for his Sovereign King Henry VII.

The design on the stamp shows a mediaeval ship under sail with the St. Georges' Cross flying at the main. In the left foreground is shown a forested headland - the Newfoundland Coast.

The commemorative stamp will measure approximately 1½ by 1 in. or the size of the current Canadian pictorial issue which commemorates the completion of 100 years of Responsible Government. The colour will be green.

Plans have been made to have the new stamp placed on sale at all principal Canadian Post Offices, including Newfoundland on April 1. The first day covers for philatelists will be handled by the Postmaster, St. John's, Newfoundland. Collectors of first day covers will be required to pay a service charge of 5 cents for each cover to be returned by ordinary mail,

and 10 cents for each cover to be returned by Registered or Air Mail. These service charges are in addition to the postage the collector wishes affixed to the cover for regular mail, air mail or registration. The stamps will be on sale by mail order through the Philatelic Section of the Post Office Department on and after April 1.

MOTOR VEHICLE SHIPMENTS: In contrast with the steady upward climb in evidence since mid-1948, factory shipments of motor vehicles dropped sharply in January to reach the lowest monthly total since September, 1946. The decline in the month from January last year was due to sharply reduced shipments of passenger models. Shipments of vehicles imported from the United States showed a substantial increase over a year ago.

According to the Bureau of Statistics, shipments of Canadian-made vehicles amounted to 13,863 units as compared with 27,305 in the preceding month and 16,715 in the corresponding month last year. In September, 1946 the total was 11,543. Shipments of vehicles imported from the United States numbered 899 compared with 88 last year.

BUTTER SUPPLIES: Domestic disappearance of creamery butter in Canada in January was at the low total of 20,591,000 pounds, down approximately 550,000 pounds or 2½ per cent from the same month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

Creamery butter production during the month, as previously published, increased to 9,696,000 pounds as compared with 8,957,000 a year earlier. The quantity of butter imported during the month under the special duty-free arrangements amounted to 1,511,000.

Stock holdings of creamery butter on January 1, which amounted to almost 37,500,000 pounds, represented a decline of about 20 per cent from December and nearly 15 per cent from the same date last year. The total supply, represented by stocks at the beginning, plus butter produced during the month, fell 22½ per cent from December and eight per cent from January last year.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY: Production of Canada's chemicals and allied products industries, which fell off sharply in 1946 following the cessation of output for war purposes, increased in value in 1947 to \$450 million from \$376 million in the preceding year, according to final summary figures issued by the Bureau of Statistics. The year's value was the highest in any peacetime year and, with shell-filling excluded, was greater than in any of the war years.

About two-thirds of the 1947 gain of 20 per cent was due to higher prices for the

products of chemicals group of industries, the Bureau estimates, and about one-third to greater volume of production. During 1947 there were 1,031 establishments making chemicals and allied products and a monthly average of 38,491 employees.

"THE MACKENZIE HIGHWAY": The recently constructed highway from Grimshaw, Alberta, to Hay River on the shore of Great Slave Lake in the Northwest Territories has been named "The Mackenzie Highway", it was announced March 10, by the Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon. The road is 386 miles long and was built at a cost of \$4,300,000 under a co-operative arrangement between the federal Government and the Government of Alberta. The federal contribution was \$2,900,000.

The road is 20-feet wide and has a gravelled surface. It is now linked up with a winter road which runs from Hay River to the flourishing mining town of Yellowknife. It will provide much needed all-year-round transportation facilities into an area in which great developments have taken place in recent years. Active prospecting for base metals as well as gold has been continuing and in recent months spectacular results have been reported.

FUR INDUSTRY: The production of the Canadian fur goods industry in 1947 had a total factory value of \$57,542,000, showing a decline of less than one per cent from the all-time record total of \$57,738,000 in 1946, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

The industry, centred mainly in Quebec and Ontario, provided employment for 6,094 persons as compared with 6,264 in 1946, and paid out a total of \$11,406,564 in salaries and wages compared with \$10,512,674. The materials used were valued at \$36,913,000, comprising furs and skins to the value of \$33,992,000, and other materials at \$2,921,000.

Fur coats account for a major part of the total value of production. There were 213,711 women's fur coats, jackets and boleros produced in 1947 to the value of \$42,907,316 compared with 214,240 valued at \$41,530,129 in the preceding year, and 2,102 men's fur coats valued at \$416,657 compared with 2,008 valued at \$414,668.

PAUL L. BELCOURT APPOINTMENT: The Minister of Transport, Mr. Chevrier, on March 10 announced the appointment of Paul L. Belcourt of Ottawa as Assistant Secretary of the recently formed Royal Commission on Transportation. The Royal Commission consists of Honourable W.F.A. Turgeon (chairman), Professor H.F. Angus and Professor H.A. Innis (commissioners), Rt. Hon. J.L. Ilesley (counsel) and G.R. Hunter (secretary).