External Affairs

The great wealth of dispersent and dispersent of the series of achievements of the aircraft industry and to the courage and ingenuity of hundreds of bush pilots between the two wars, is now being exploited for the good of the nation. Our northern cities have become the communication centres sources beyond the rail and highway ar . AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF AVIATION

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government servant is acutely levil aid for eAn laddress by the Brime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, . Dirowdelivered at a dinner given by the Government to the delegates of the International Air Transport and senil ducAssociation, sat Montreal, October 5, 1953.

aviation is serving Canada. Our country is spread out fo thousands of miles in an east-west direction as well, and in those thousands of miles are large island-like tracts

aparealy-settled territory between the populated areas. end to be made in what is now the British Commonwealth was Disen made at Baddeck, Nova Scotia, just six years after the Balasopening of the air age by the Wright Brothers. The flight Won din "The Silver Dart", as the craft was named, was made by Istal John A.D. McCurdy, who has continued to contribute to the ment development of aviation in this country ever since. I Ob set should add that until recently he was serving his country in another capacity as lieutenant-governor of the province in which he made his historic flight.

Include the state of the state edito span the 105 miles of water between Key West and Cuba ersw orbut was forced down into the sea a short distance from Havana. The failure to reach his goal on that occasion did not dampen his belief in the potential of aviation, for he assanceabled the Toronto Star about the incident in the following issico words: "Although not disposed to make any wild son "Olaioscalculations.... I am seriously impressed with the possibility of making inter-continental, trans-ocean flights by aeroplane".

betaleas and ATAI and tant nov flat ton been I of anoitaluger alt was a similar faith in other men combined with obam perseverance and daring that has made that cautious prediction sound amusing today. Many of you represent JUR airlines whose ships now fly across great ocean distances as a matter of routine. So thoroughly have the techniques of ocean flight been mastered that it is difficult to realize that as recently as the Second World War, a trans-Atlantic oot oflight was still a great adventure.

s you have solved. But Canada's contribution to aviation was not limited to the deeds of her early pilots alone. Canadians have done their share in the technical side of aviation as well. It was a Canadian, Walter Turnbull, who is credited with the development of the controllable-pitch propeller as early as 1916, an invention which much later became the standard equipment of all aircraft and which greatly increased their versatility and efficiency.

While I have only quoted two examples, I think While I have only quoted two one their share in it is fair to say that Canadians have done their share in the development of aviation. And I think it is also the development that no country has so greatly benefitted accurate to say that no country has so greatly benefitted accurate to say that no country of air transport as has from aviation and the development of air transport as has from aviation and the development land consists of Canada. Millions of acres of our land consists of forests, mountains and lakes and Arctic tundra which forests, mountains and lakes obstacles to communic provided almost insurmountable obstacles to communication iountil the advent of the airplane, sinemeergs seeds

industry and above all the interests of the international public which you serve.