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## CANADA'S NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY

The natural gas industry in 1956 completed preparations and commenced construction work on a cross-country pipeline transmission and distribution system. The industry's achievements in transportation matters came after several years of intensive resource development, pipeline planning, and market appraisals during which time many company negotiations took place and detailed hearings were held by government regulatory boards, according to a survey made public by the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

With the establishment of long-distance transportation now assured, the natural gas resources of Western Canada will be linked with large markets throughout Canada and a change in the pattern of fuels usage will begin to take place. Benefits from this new fuel will accrue to domestic, commercial and industrial consumers throughout the country. In addition to its energy applications, natural gas will find a use in many chemically-based industries. Developments in the natural gas industry in 1956 thus give promise for the future of far-reaching effects in the Canadian economy.

Natural gas reserve build-up in 1956 was well in line with developments in other sectors of the industry. By the end of the year reserves were in excess of 23 trillion cubic feet. This represents a five-fold increase since 1950, whereas natural gas production registered a two-fold increase during the same period. The favourable factor of rapidly in-

creasing gas reserves has emphasized the need for adequate market outlets. A large proportion of these reserves have been developed incidental to oil exploration; therefore, except in British Columbia, there has been little direct effort to enlarge gas reserves. The outlook for continuing reserve growth appears excellent.

Natural gas production in 1956 amounted to 169,542,504 M cu. ft. compared with 150,772,312 M cu. ft. in 1955. Alberta accounted for 86.3 per cent of 1956 marketed production, a slight percentage decrease from recent years due to the rise in output from Ontario and Saskatchewan. Ontario accounted for 7.8 per cent and Saskatchewan, 5.8 per cent. Minor amounts of natural gas were produced in British Columbia, New Brunswick and Northwest Territories.

In spite of restricted extra-provincial market outlets, the Alberta production of 146,133,713 M cu. ft. in 1956 represents a marked increase over the 1950 production of 58,603,976 M cu. ft. During the 1950-1956 period there were relatively minor extra-provincial shipments and the growth rate is therefore a function of Alberta market expansion. In this same period Saskatchewan marketed production registered a 12-fold increase, Saskatchewan's rapidly expanding distribution system having been initiated in 1951. Ontario's long-established natural gas industry is experiencing new activity, with the 1956 output of 13,203,671 M cu. ft. being almost double the low point reached in the mid-1940's. In

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British Columbia the industry's first officially recorded production was made in 1956. A rapid growth in this province is anticipated, commencing in 1958, with the first full year of operation of a gas transportation system being built to give Peace River gas fields access to Pacific Coast markets. No appreciable change in natural gas production has taken place, or is foreseen, in the Northwest Territories or New Brunswick.

Marketed production in Canada of 169,542, - 504 M cu. ft. was augmented by imports of 15,695,359 M cu. ft. which, however, were partially offset by exports of 9,642,449 M cu. ft.

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**TRAINING PROGRAMMES.** Between 1951 and 1956 there was an increase of 74 per cent in the number of manufacturing establishments which had organized programmes for training of workers in skilled trades, and during this period the proportion of establishments in manufacturing with such programmes increased from 16 per cent in 1951 to 29 per cent in 1956.

This fact was brought out in a series of surveys conducted by the Economics and Research Branch of the Department of Labour, the results of which have recently been published in a booklet entitled *Training and Recruitment of Skilled Tradesmen in Selected Industries in Canada 1951-1956*. Copies of the publication may be obtained from the Queen's Printer, price 25 cents.

The surveys conducted in 1951, 1953 and 1954 were part of the Department's annual Survey of Working Conditions in Canada. In 1956, however, the survey was part of a broad research programme in the field of skilled manpower training and utilization. The earlier surveys covered only manufacturing establishments, but the 1956 survey also included mining, transportation and communication, and public utilities. The construction industry does not form part of the Working Conditions Survey, and was not included. In all, 7,360 establishments were covered in the 1956 survey.

The report deals with two types of organized trade training--apprenticeship and non-apprenticeship programmes. It is stated that in 1956, 90 per cent of all the establishments which had apprenticeship training in the four industries covered were in manufacturing, and were concentrated mainly in three industries. These industries were: printing, publishing, and allied industries; transportation equipment; and iron and steel products.

"In 1956 non-apprenticeship training programmes were much less common than apprenticeship programmes, and once again most of them were in manufacturing," the report says. "... Establishments with apprenticeship training far outnumbered those with non-apprenticeship programmes in the four industries surveyed, but the number of apprentices was not much greater than that of non-apprentices--three apprentices for every two non-apprentices."

**STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS:** Establishment of the first bird sanctuary in Canada's far north has been announced by Resources Minister Douglas S. Harkness.

"Establishment of the Dewey Soper Bird Sanctuary on Baffin Island, in the Northwest Territories, is an important development in the protection of migratory birds in Canada," the Minister said. The name of the Dewey Soper Bird Sanctuary was selected to honour the biologist who originally discovered the blue goose breeding grounds.

The sanctuary is an area of 3,150 square miles which serves to protect the heart of the important blue and snow goose breeding grounds. The American brant and Hutchin's goose also breed in the same area. The Sanctuary, on the southwest side of Baffin Island between Bowman Bay and the Koukdjuak River, is rated as the most important summer goose colony in the world. It is closely related to, and includes, the smaller 500-square mile Bowman Bay Game Preserve.

Within the newly established sanctuary, hunting is prohibited. Exploration and development of mineral resources, however, may be allowed under permit from the Canadian Wildlife Service of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Mineral developments may also be allowed provided that adequate steps are taken to prevent undue disturbance of the migratory birds in the area.

Dewey Soper's explorations on Baffin Island began in 1922 and continued until 1929, culminating in the discovery of the nesting grounds of the blue goose. Travelling often under most arduous conditions in winter and summer, Mr. Soper explored new territory, adding greatly to the knowledge of the fauna of Baffin Island.

Mr. Soper, who was a biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service before his retirement from the Federal Government, now lives in Edmonton. He has published many reports on his work and was made a Fellow of the American Ornithologists Union in recognition of his contributions to North American Ornithology.

The Sanctuary will be supervised by the Canadian Wildlife Service, the agency responsible for its administration under the Migratory Birds Convention Act. There are close to 100 bird sanctuaries in Canada at the present time.

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**DISARMAMENT REPRESENTATIVE:** Mr. C. S. A. Ritchie, The Canadian Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, this week took over the duties of Canadian Representative to the Sub-Committee of the United Nations Disarmament Commission which is currently meeting in London. Mr. Ritchie succeeded Mr. David M. Johnson, the Canadian Ambassador to the Soviet Union, who returned to his post in Moscow after having served on the Sub-Committee since the beginning of the present session in March of this year.

## RECORD EXPORTS TOTAL

Canada's domestic exports in the first half of this year showed a small increase to a record total of \$2,287,100,000 as compared with the preceding year's first-half value of \$2,269,900,000, Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in its monthly summary. Both prices and volume were little changed over the half-year period. June's value dropped nearly 9 per cent to \$387,000,000 from \$423,600,000 but it should be noted that the month contained less working days than usual.

Half-year gains in exports of non-ferrous metals, non-metallic minerals, iron and its products, chemicals and allied products, and miscellaneous commodities, outweighed substantial declines in agricultural and animal products and wood and paper products. Geographically there were increased exports to all main areas except the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries. In June declines were common to all main areas except Latin America.

Among individual commodities there were increased values in the January-June period in aluminum and products, nickel, zinc and products, uranium and concentrates, crude petroleum, iron ore, seeds, grains other than wheat, and newsprint paper, but decreased values for wheat, wheat flour, fish and fishery products, planks and boards, wood pulp, farm implements and machinery, and copper and products.

January-June exports to the United States rose in value to \$1,355,690,000 from \$1,345,374,000 a year earlier, increases in four groups more than offsetting decreases in the other five. Chief increases were in the non-ferrous metals and non-metallic minerals section, and the main decrease in wood and paper.

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## FIELD CROP ACREAGES

Preliminary estimates of 1957 field crop acreages, released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, indicate that Canadian farmers seeded 21,000,000 acres to wheat, a decrease of 8 per cent from the 1956 total of 22,800,000; 11,000,000 acres to oats, down 6 per cent from 11,700,000; and 9,400,000 acres to barley for an increase of 12 per cent over 8,400,000. Flax seedings increased 15 per cent to 3,500,000 acres (an all-time high) from 3,000,000. Rapeseed at 629,000 acres versus 351,900 and soybeans at 255,200 versus 243,200 also reached new record levels.

Rye seedings, at 550,000 acres are little changed from those of 1956 (546,900), but mixed grains at 1,452,200 acres have declined 7 per cent from the 1956 seedings of 1,560,500 acres. Other crops showing little change to moderate decreases in area from 1956 levels are potatoes, buckwheat, dry peas, dry beans, field roots and fodder corn. Somewhat larger acreages than in 1956 are reported for corn,

June's value was little changed at \$228,934,000 versus \$228,759,000, with all nine main groups relatively stable.

Exports to the United Kingdom fell to \$338,481,000 in the half-year period from \$368,961,000 a year earlier and to \$55,974,000 in June from \$65,363,000. The agricultural and vegetable products group accounted for most of the decrease in both periods.

Exports to the rest of the Commonwealth fell to \$112,170,000 in the half-year period from \$127,715,000 a year earlier and to \$19,587,000 in June from \$27,176,000. Shipments were smaller in value in both periods to the Union of South Africa, India, New Zealand and Jamaica, but larger to Australia.

Boosted by larger shipments to Mexico, Panama, Brazil, Argentina and Cuba, January-June exports to the Latin American group of countries rose to \$111,756,000 from \$80,566,000 a year earlier. June's value rose to \$16,548,000 from \$15,766,000. Exports to Venezuela were lower in value both in June and the six-month period.

General gains to most major European markets, including Belgium and Luxembourg, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, and Switzerland, raised the area total for the half-year to \$262,782,000 from \$255,709,000 in 1956. June's value dropped to \$50,463,000 from \$68,152,000.

Exports to all other foreign countries rose in the half-year period to \$96,573,000 from \$81,731,000 a year earlier, but declined in June to \$14,212,000 from \$16,785,000. Japan accounted for a large part of the total, shipments to that country rising in the six months but falling in June.

grain, tame hay and sugar beets. The area in summerfallow, at 24,700,000 acres is 3 per cent above that of 1956.

This year's potato acreage is estimated at 311,000 versus 312,500 in 1956; buckwheat, 102,400 acres (168,000 in 1956); dry peas, 84,900 (87,900); dry beans, 62,500 (65,600); field roots, 32,900 (39,700); fodder corn, 370,700 (394,200); and tame hay, 11,500,000 (10,900,000). The acreage of sugar beets remaining for harvest on or about July 31 amounted to 86,016 versus 78,878 a year earlier.

For Canada as a whole the area seeded to the 16 spring-planted crops included in the Bureau's estimate is placed at 48,400,000 acres compared with 49,300,000 in 1956 and the ten-year (1946-55) average of 47,400,000. Total acreage in the 16 spring-planted crops, together with winter wheat, fall rye, tame hay and summerfallow amounted to 85,600,000 acres, little changed from last year's 85,300,000.

**SOIL SURVEY:** This summer some 450 square miles or approximately 290 thousand acres of land along the Hudson Bay Railroad stretching from Pipun to Armstrong Lake in northern Manitoba are being surveyed by a party of 12 soil specialists. The survey is a joint effort on the part of the Canada Department of Agriculture, the Manitoba Department of Mines and Natural Resources and the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, to gain information as to the arability of this northern area.

The survey will cover a strip, four miles wide, two miles on each side of the railroad, running a distance of approximately 110 miles. On-the-spot observations will be recorded every quarter mile and soil samples and profiles will be taken back to laboratories in Winnipeg for further study. Analysis of samples will provide information on deficiencies and excesses of certain essential soil elements. Upon the completion of this investigation a detailed map of the area will be compiled supplemented by aerial photographs.

The use of aerial photographs will enable this team of soil scientists to determine the nature of a far larger area than that actually surveyed by land. Types of vegetation, and bogs are indicative of certain soil types especially so when actual results of a land survey of a representative section of the country are available.

For the past two years the Canada Department of Agriculture has been experimenting near this locality at Wabowden and although the project is only in its early stages it is felt that the land will produce under proper management, providing frost is not too great a hazard. However, this work will have to be continued for several years yet before the potential of the region can be accurately determined.

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**FRUIT CROPS LARGER:** Yields of all main fruit crops, except pears and strawberries, will range from slightly-to-substantially larger this year than last, according to the first estimate of fruit production by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Yields of pears and strawberries are estimated to be 25 per cent and 20 per cent smaller, respectively.

Estimated total Canadian production is as follows (in thousands): apples, 12,718 bushels (12,424 bushels in 1956); pears, 1,027 bushels (1,375); plums and prunes, 552 bushels (534); peaches, 2,391 bushels (1,667); apricots, 287 bushels (84); sweet and sour cherries, 459 bushels (388); strawberries, 15,055 quarts (19,111); raspberries, 10,672 quarts (6,656); loganberries, 1,026 pounds (279); and grapes, 80,858 pounds (80,274).

Output of apples in British Columbia--the largest producer--is estimated at 5,575,000 bushels compared to 1956's 4,131,000, in Ontario at 2,738,000 versus 2,992,000, in Quebec at 2,080,000 versus 2,820,000, and in Nova

Scotia at 1,950,000 versus 2,206,000. Peach production is estimated to be up in Ontario to 1,832,000 bushels from 1,367,000 and in British Columbia to 559,000 from 300,000. Sweet and sour cherries in Ontario are placed at 373,000 bushels versus 330,000 and in British Columbia at 86,000 versus 58,000. Grape production is expected to be unchanged in Ontario at 79,814,000 pounds but is estimated to be substantially larger in British Columbia at 1,044,000 pounds against 460,000.

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**DEMANDS ON COLLEGES:** Demands upon the capacity of Canadian universities during the next 10 years will be much greater than had been anticipated, in the opinion of the Conference of Learned Societies which met in Ottawa recently.

Two years ago Dr. E. S. Sheffield, of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, presented a paper to the National Conference of Canadian Universities, comprising the heads of Canada's 32 degree-granting institutions, in which he predicted that judging by the number of births 18 to 21 years earlier enrolments would probably rise from about 64,000 in 1954-55 to about 123,000 in 1964-65. It was this prediction which started the university administrators on their present expansion plans.

At the recent meeting, however, a revision by Dr. Sheffield of his earlier estimate suggested that it might be far too low. Enrolment figures for the past two years were, respectively, two per cent and six per cent higher than had been anticipated. This would be consistent with enrolments of 170,000 to 180,000 students by 1964-65.

Dr. Claude T. Bissell, president of Carleton University, suggested that Canadian enrolments, which are now seven to nine per cent of the 18 to 21 age group, may be moving in the direction of those in the United States, which are 30 per cent of the group at present, and are expected to rise to 50 per cent. At the 30 per cent level attendance by 1964-65 would be 370,000 students, and at the 50 per cent level 600,000 students.

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**UNIONISTS FROM ABROAD:** More than 80 union members from 35 different countries will make up the student body of a world seminar being held in Canada in September by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in co-operation with the Canadian Labour Congress.

Canadian unions are assisting the visitors from abroad to attend the seminar by providing \$1,200 scholarships to them to defray their expenses.

The seminar will be held at the Banff School of Fine Arts, September 8 to 22. It will be followed by trips by the visitors to various centres in Canada where they will live with Canadian union members, and be shown the conditions under which they work.

**INVITES VIEWS:** Mr. Michael Starr, Minister of Labour, has invited the principal organizations of labour and management in Canada to give him the benefit of their views on the amendment of the Industrial Relations and Disputes Investigation Act.

The Labour Minister is arranging with officials of his Department for a review of the provisions of the Act to "make it more effective in its application to the industries which are covered thereby".

The move was in line with Mr. Starr's pledge, made at the time of his appointment, to review existing Federal labour legislation.

The Industrial Relations and Disputes Investigation Act came into effect almost nine years ago, on September 1, 1948. In its principal features, the Act now provides for the right of employees and employers to organize, for the certification of trade unions as bargaining agents, for the negotiation of collective agreements, and for the appointment of Conciliation Officers, Conciliation Boards and Industrial Inquiry Commissions to deal with industrial disputes.

When the Act was passed in 1948 it combined the provisions for the settlement of disputes contained in the 1907 Industrial Disputes Investigation Act and the representation and collective bargaining provisions of the 1944 Wartime Labour Relations Regulations.

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**CONFERENCE WITH SEAWAY USERS:** The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority has announced that the Canadian Tolls Committee representing the Authority will hold a conference in the Board Room of the Board of Transport Commissioners for Canada, in Ottawa, on September 19. The Canadian Tolls Committee will hold this conference with a view to the eventual determination of a toll rate that will be low enough to attract the traffic, yet adequate to provide revenues sufficient to pay for the cost of the Seaway.

An invitation has been mailed to a list of potential users and groups, as well as organizations interested in the Seaway navigation facilities which will be completed for the shipping season of 1959. The invitation includes a questionnaire listing subjects pertinent to the studies which for the past several years have been undertaken by the Toll Committees representing the United States and Canadian Seaway entities. The letter of invitation also solicits memoranda on the subjects contained in the questionnaire such as the method of assessing tolls, the measurement of vessels for registered tonnage and practical means for payment of tolls.

"The toll structures of other international waterways," declared Mr. Charles Gavsie, President of The St. Lawrence Seaway, "have been studied in the expectation that certain of their features can be adopted so as to provide a toll structure for the Seaway which

would have procedural simplicity, would minimize the cost of collections and would expedite the despatching of vessels, and yet would permit economical rates. The Canadian Toll Committee looks forward to receiving views on these points and feels confident that the contribution of Seaway users will prove to be of material value in finally determining the toll rates for shipping through the Seaway navigation facilities".

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**WHEAT EXPORTS:** Overseas export clearances of Canadian wheat in the crop year just ended declined 15 per cent to 222,386,000 bushels from the preceding year's 261,943,000 bushels, Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Clearances of barley increased to 55,319,000 bushels from 35,459,000 and flaxseed to 21,544,000 bushels from 11,583,000.

During the crop year, deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces were slightly smaller at 350,118,000 bushels versus 352,975,000 a year earlier. Deliveries of barley were larger at 117,320,000 bushels versus 114,460,000 and flaxseed at 28,519,000 bushels versus 15,750,000, but deliveries of oats were smaller at 65,103,000 bushels versus 71,629,000 and rye at 3,863,000 bushels versus 12,486,000.

Year-end visible supplies of Canadian wheat (in Canadian positions) were nearly 8 per cent larger at 401,176,000 bushels versus 372,325,000 a year earlier. Visible supplies of oats were also larger at 50,538,000 bushels versus 46,755,000 as were the supplies of flaxseed at 5,766,000 bushels versus 2,067,000. Year-end visible supplies of barley were smaller at 59,830,000 bushels versus 60,330,000 and rye at 3,377,000 bushels versus 6,125,000.

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**NATO AIRCRAFT:** Aircraft technicians of the Belgian Air Force began training on the Canadian designed and built CF-100 all-weather jet fighters at the RCAF's No. 3 Fighter Wing, Zweibrucken, Germany, last week, officials of Canada's NATO Air Division have announced.

On completion of their training, part of the course will be selected to form a Belgian field technical training unit similar to the one at 3 Wing. The remaining students will form the nucleus of squadron technicians for the twin jet CF-100's as they come into squadron service.

Under the direction of Warrant Officer D.J. Moils of Wolseley, Sask., the six-week course requires the students to receive contact training by working on the CF-100's along with RCAF technicians, as well as normal classroom instruction.

The CF-100's allocated to Belgium through the Mutual Aid Programmes of Canada and the United States are expected to start arriving in Belgium late this year.

**SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION:** The representatives of 65 countries are using simultaneous translation equipment, designed, installed, and operated by the Canadian Army in meetings of the World Postal Union now being held in Ottawa.

Patterned after equipment used in the United Nations Assembly, but highly modified and portable, the equipment was designed and fabricated by personnel of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, stationed at the Oshawa Wireless Station.

The equipment is capable of handling simultaneous translations into four languages. For this meeting, they are English, French, Spanish, and Russian.

There is a microphone, earphone and a five position switch on each desk.

To set the translation system into operation the delegate presses a small switch on his microphone. This constitutes his bid for the floor. A control panel on the Chairman's desk records the bid by means of a light under his name plate.

The chairman verbally recognizes the delegate and RC Sigs. operators then switch his microphone to the floor address circuit. His first words are broadcast in the original language on all stations. The translators working in their booths above the Speaker's chair begin to translate and the delegates have their choice of four languages.

All the proceedings are recorded on magnetic tape and held for six days so that disputes can be settled or avoided. A permanent record is made on disc for the Union. It is recorded in French, the official language of the Union.

It took a little over a week to install the system in the House of Commons and to ensure it met broadcast standards.

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**UNESCO FELLOWSHIP:** A UNESCO travel fellowship has been awarded to the Canadian Junior Red Cross for 1957. It is one of 40 granted this year to a number of international youth organizations. On the recommendation of the League of Red Cross Societies, fellowships were granted to the Junior Red Cross of Canada and Ceylon. The major purpose of the travel grant is to enable a young Canadian educator to travel to Iran to explore and assist in the establishment of a workable self-help project to be administered by the Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, the equivalent of the Red Cross in this country. When established, this self-help project will be financed by the Canadian Junior Red Cross through its Funds for International Help and Understanding. An initial grant of \$10,000 has already been voted by the Canadian Junior Red Cross to start the project. En route to and from Iran, the winner of the fellowship will visit Great Britain, The Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Yugoslavia and Lebanon to study Junior Red Cross activities in those countries. The three-month trip must commence before the end of this year. The

UNESCO grant covers travelling costs and the Canadian Junior Red Cross will pay other expenses.

**ENVOY TO MALAYA:** Mr. J. M. Macdonnell, who was designated special envoy to represent Canada at the ceremonies in Kuala Lumpur between August 30 and September 3, 1957, to mark the attainment of independence by the Federation of Malaya within the Commonwealth of Nations, left from Uplands Airport, Ottawa on August 19.

Mr. Macdonnell, who is accompanied by officials of the Department of External Affairs, will make short stops at San Francisco, Honolulu, Wake Island, Manila and Singapore. After the independence ceremonies he will pay short visits to New Delhi and Karachi where he will have discussions with Indian and Pakistani Government leaders before returning to Ottawa via London.

**UPS AND DOWNS:** July was the busiest month on record for Canadian airports in terms of landings and takeoffs, according to figures released by the Department of Transport. The Department's air traffic controllers handled a total of 315,583 landings and takeoffs for that period. This represents an increase of 26 per cent over the corresponding period a year ago, it was stated.

The airport at Cartierville, Quebec, topped the list with 32,354 landings and takeoffs. Next were Vancouver, 30,870; Malton, 28,113; Edmonton, 26,237; Ottawa, 23,766 and Winnipeg, 20,427.

The scheduled airline landings and takeoffs, included in the above figures, were as follows: Montreal, 4,714; Malton, 4,639; Vancouver, 3,120; Edmonton, 2,610 and Winnipeg, 1,995.

Statistics cover the 26 airports where the Department of Transport's air traffic controllers operate.

**SHOWING THE FLAG:** Six Canadian destroyer escorts, including three of Canada's new St. Laurent class anti-submarine vessels, will show the flag in a series of Baltic ports during October and November, following completion of NATO fall exercises.

The ships will sail from Halifax at the beginning of September to take part in the NATO exercises, following which they will leave for the Baltic in early October. The ships will return to Halifax at the beginning of December.

Among the ports the Canadian ships will visit are Stockholm, Helsinki, and Copenhagen.

The three St. Laurent class vessels will be HMC Ships St. Laurent, Assiniboine and Saguenay of the Third Canadian Escort Squadron. The others will be HMC Ships Micmac, Haida, and Nootka of the First Canadian Escort Squadron.