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## business trends

**DDP Contracts** 

Department of Defense Production placed a total of 60 contracts with firms in the aviation and allied industries during the month of August. Total value of the business, involving unclassified contracts to the value of \$10,000 or more, was \$13,745,068. The largest single contract was an \$8,347,414 order for UHF airborne transceivers placed with the Collins Radio Co. of Canada Ltd. (see Intelligence). Another substantial contract, \$1,183,722 for the overhaul and maintenance of helicopters, was placed with Spartan Air Services Ltd. of Ottawa. The Spartan firm also received a \$729,-920 contract to cover mapping surveys during the year ending April 1, 1958. Other substantial contracts went to Ferranti Electric Ltd. of Toronto which received four orders totaling \$344,194 for aircraft instruments; Aero Equipment of Canada Ltd., Toronto, \$221,000 for the repair and overhaul of aircraft oxygen equipment during the year ending March 31, 1958; Electronic Materials International Ltd. of Ottawa, two contracts totaling \$349,474 for electronic equipment; Dowty Equipment of Canada Ltd. of Ajax, \$240,611 for aircraft spares; Canadair Ltd. of Montreal, \$240,-000 for technical publications; Canadian Westinghouse Co. Ltd. of Ottawa, \$232,-413 for electronic tubes; Canadian Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Co. Ltd. of Longueuil, four contracts totaling \$116,-056 and covering helicopter airframe spares (two), aircraft propeller spares and tools and technical publications.

Merger Approved

Merger of Liquid Carbonic Corp. into General Dynamics Corp. has been approved by directors of the two firms. Final approval of the move rests with share owners of the two concerns who are scheduled to hold special meetings to consider the matter. Under the proposed agreement, Liquid Carbonic common shareholders will receive one share of General Dynamics stock for each common share of Liquid Carbonic. If approved, the merger would make Liquid Carbonic the sixth division in the General Dynamics industrial complex which now includes five U.S. divisions: Convair, Electric Boat, Electro Dynamic, General Atomic and Stromberg-Carlson; and a Canadian subsidiary, Canadair Ltd. of Montreal.

**Ryan Profits** 

Ryan Aeronautical Co. of San Diego reports net profits for the first nine months of the firm's current fiscal year up 18 percent compared to the same period last year. As of July 31, net profit stood at \$1,076,330 after provision for federal income tax. President T. Claude Ryan reported business volume "substantially higher than last year," with net sales and other income totalling \$46,244,618 compared with \$33,023,043 for a comparable period in the previous year.

A. V. Roe Stock Issue

The A. V. Roe Canada Ltd. issue of \$24,000,000 in preferred shares as part of plans to finance purchase of controlling interest in Dominion Steel and Coal Corp. included a public offering of 40,-000 preferred shares. It marked the second time within just under a year that A. V. Roe shares were offered on the open market and is the first time that preferred shares have been available for public subscription in Canada. In October of 1956 the company issued 500,000 shares of common stock. The issue, at \$16 a share, was quickly bought up. Of the recent issue of 240,000 preferred shares at \$100 per share, 200,000 were sold to Racair Ltd., a Hawker Siddeley Group Ltd. subsidiary, with the remaining 40,000 being offered publicly. The public issue was picked up the day of issue. Meanwhile, A. V. Roe was continuing negotiations toward the DOSCO nurchase.

Okanagan Dividend

Declaration of a five cents a share dividend is cited by Okanagan Helicopters Ltd. Group as indicative of the firm's strengthened financial position. G. W. McPherson, president and managing director, announced the dividend to shareholders in an interim report which showed a profit on operations during the first six months of 1957 of \$88,214, compared with a net loss of \$101,460 during the same period in 1956. Success of efforts to obtain year-round work and reduce off-season lay-offs was said to be the main factor in this year's improved financial picture.

**Arctic Survey Coverage** 

Granting of a \$2,833,356 contract to Sparton Air Services Ltd., Ottawa, extends the company's high-altitude photographic coverage for the Canadian Government to within 500 miles of the North Pole. Contract is to cover 220,800 square miles of the Arctic Islands for the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys. Other companies granted similar contracts are the Photographic Survey Corp., Toronto, and Aero Surveys Ltd., of Vancouver.

**Lockheed Sales** 

Sales totalling \$425,067,000 for the first half of 1957 are reported by Lockheed Aircraft Corp. Of this, commercial sales accounted for \$102,342,000 including delivery of 40 Super Constellations and Model 1649 Starliners. The firm reports a mid-year backlog of \$1,392,762,000.

## Union Carbide Move

Union Carbide Canada Ltd. plans a \$4,500,000 head office building at Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto. Elevenstory building will accommodate Union Carbide and its divisions which include Linde Air Products Co.