news digest



Boat Venture by Avro

Despite the higher cost of the raw materials involved, Avro Aircraft Ltd., Malton, Ont., aim to produce aluminum hull pleasure cruisers as cheaply as their wooden counterparts, through their new association with United Marine Inc., of the U.S. Harvey R. Smith, executive vice-president, aeronautical, of A. V. Roe, Canada, told pressmen last month that with superior machining methods and by making use of every piece of scrap material, they expected to keep costs down. \$500,000 had been spent on tools for the project.

Avro has established a new marine division for production of the boats, which it is planned to market both in the U.S. and Canada through dealers appointed by United Marine's Richardson Boat Division of North Tonawanda, N.Y. Fittings for the boats will be made by Canadian Steel Improvement Ltd., an A. V. Roe subsidiary.

Toronto Club Moving

Forced to move from Malton Airport owing to expansion of the facilities there, the Toronto Flying Club is scheduled to move to the Toronto Island Airport on October 1. The latter is also undergoing considerable enlargement and improvement of facilities. A new and longer runway will permit night flying operations and a new hangar is in the course of construction.

"The Few" Remembered

More than 1,400 members of the RCAF and RCAF Association paraded in Ottawa on September 18th to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. The Golden Hawks in their Sabre jets dipped in salute over the Peace Tower and over their honoured predecessors, the Hurricane and the Spitfire parked nearby. The Battle of Britain was the RCAF's baptism of fire, when No. 1 (later 401) and 242 Squadrons flew into action. The names of 47 Canadian officers and men who lost their lives during the battle are inscribed on the Honour Roll in the memorial chapel of Westminster Abbey.

Defining Law Aloft

The Canadian Air Line Pilots Association, which has been active in establishing the legal status of the pilot in command of an aircraft for some time past, has now published a book entitled "Law Enforcement in Flight." This explains the effect of amendments to the Criminal Code and Civil Air Regulations made in August, 1959, through the efforts of CALPA, the DOT, Department of Justice and the RCMP. The author is Capt. W. E. Barnes, a TCA pilot. Copies of the book are obtainable (price 50 cents) from CALPA headquarters: 400-401 Electric Railway Chambers, Winnipeg 2,



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540's for Quebecair

Two Eland turboprop-powered Canadair 540 transports have been ordered by Quebecair Inc., Rimouski, Que., from Canadair Ltd., Montreal. This is the first commercial sale of this aircraft by Canadair, although ten have been ordered by the RCAF, and Convair airframes converted to Eland turboprop engines have been purchased by Allegheny Airlines.

Quebecair already has a 540 demonstrator aircraft in operation, on lease, and this has been assigned to the Montreal-Quebec City-Rimouski-Seven Islands-Wabush Lake-Shefferville route. The airplane makes a return trip over the 800 mile route daily, and the airpline reports that in the first week of operation the load factor was virtually 100 percent on all segments. The 540's are being equipped with an Airesearch auxiliary power unit in the tail to permit operation of cabin air-conditioning and other equipment while the aircraft are on the ground.

The Quebec airline is also operating Dart powered Fairchild F-27 turbo-

Building Sopwith Pup

George Neal, Chief Pilot of de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd., is building a Sopwith Pup as his current "basement project." He is presently assembling the bits and pieces, and has overcome a major obstacle by acquiring an 80 hp Le Rhone rotary engine with only test run time on it. The engine was originally delivered to the U.S. Army, but was never flown. He will of course have to move out of the basement to assemble the 26 ft. 6 in. span wood and fabric machine. George obtained the plans of the aircraft from a California collector.

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