

Aircraft manufacturing in Canada —today and yesterday

Its history is both a heritage and a lesson

by Arnold Warren

The Golden Anniversary of aviation in Canada provides an opportunity for the aircraft industries to contemplate their share in its history. The pictures on this page are graphic evidence of its scope — from the 1915 bomber, above, produced in a small downtown Toronto factory, to the vast Malton complex, below, where the supersonic Avro Arrow and its Orenda Iroquois engines are being developed, manufactured and tested.

Compressing this history into one article has necessitated limitations. Therefore, only companies actually engaged in manufacturing airframes or engines have

been included. A complete history, which would include all sub-contractors, component manufacturers and suppliers, repair and overhaul contractors, would fill libraries. Even so, it is almost inevitable that important chapters have escaped our notice, and been omitted.

We hope that you will find some of the pleasure and inspiration in reading this history that we had in preparing it and we wish to thank all the "old-timers" who contributed so cheerfully of their knowledge, their personal records, and the contents of their photo albums, to make it possible.

The vast Malton aircraft complex, with Orenda Engines production plant in the foreground, its development test cells and altitude test facility behind, engineering experimental plant and laboratories in the middle distance, with Avro Aircraft and Malton airport in the background.

