

aviation intelligence

Aviation Building

Encouraging developments in his long standing effort for construction of a permanent aviation industry display building is reported by Frank Young, TCA's Operations Manager Central Region. Canadian National Exhibition's board of directors has indicated to the Air Industries and Transport Association it is prepared to finance construction on the CNE grounds providing there is assurance from industry of participation in displays. Response from individual companies has been described so far as enthusiastic following a spot check by AITA General Manager R. N. Redmayne. Final reply to the CNE proposal was expected following a late June meeting of AITA directors.

Battle for Prairie Service

Pacific Western Air Lines Ltd. of Vancouver is seen facing competition from TransAir Ltd., Winnipeg, and Saskatchewan Government Airways of Prince Albert in its bid to take over Canadian Pacific Air Lines' Edmonton-Regina and intermediate points service. TransAir President R. D. Turner has indicated the Manitoba company's determination to expand throughout the mid-West as the opportunity presents itself. Officials of the Saskatchewan firm are reported preparing an application for the route.

Versatile Dectra

Lundberg Explorations Ltd. of Toronto reports excellent results in use of Decca Navigator Co. Ltd.'s long range Dectra system to fix lines in flying an extensive over-water airborne geophysical survey in Venezuela. Using the Dectra system, the Canso crew experienced no difficulty fixing for the rigidly accurate lines (one-eighth of a mile) over the trackless water. The Decca company set up special ground stations for the operation.

Election Effect

The Conservative victory in June's voting is not seen bringing any immediate changes in the aviation industry. The Tory defense policy, on the basis of campaign speeches, should keep spending at approximately the same level with no prospect of cutbacks on orders. In air transport, a stronger Conservative government would be committed to at least giving serious consideration to main line competition for Trans-Canada Air Lines. However, with the Liberals in practice and the CCF in principle opposed to such a move, the outnumbered government would be hard pressed to implement such a program.

Survey Processing Speed-up

Hunting Associates of Toronto officials are enthusiastic about a method for electronic processing of airborne photographic survey data. It will be available to the Canadian firm through association with a new U. S. company, Photronix Inc. of Columbus, Ohio. Developed by Photronix president Everett S. Preston, use of calculating machines is said to save up to 60 per cent in time and 40 per cent on processing initial airborne survey results. In addition to securing the new processing method, Hunting sees the tie-in as expanding its base for operations in the United States. Field Aviation of Oshawa, a Hunting company, is fitting up a survey aircraft (a Cessna) for Photronix.

International ATC Committee

Always strong, Canadian-United States co-operation in developing air traffic control methods is seen strengthening even further with establishment of a new joint committee to study mutual problems and co-ordinate regulations and systems. Canadian representation will be headed by C. C. Bogart, head of the Department of Transport's air traffic control group which was recently elevated to the status of a division in the civil aviation branch.

Bristol Sets for Proetus

Bristol Aero Engines (Western) Ltd. of Vancouver will operate turbine and piston overhaul and repair lines side by side when they begin their program on Proetus engines in support of Canadian Pacific Air Lines' Britannias. Present staff of about 120 is expected to increase by 90 with the Proetus program underway.

U K Missiles for Export

Look for British manufacturers to make a determined bid for a sizeable portion of the guided missiles market in Commonwealth and NATO countries. The Fairey Fireflash, Bristol Bloodhound, Armstrong-Whitworth Seaslug, de Havilland Firestreak, as well as developments of the English Electric and A. V. Roe companies are described as available.

Avro's "Saucer"

Importance of Avro Aircraft's "Flying Saucer" project in United States Defense Department long term planning is indicated by the fact that present Senate demands for economy in American defense spending have not influenced support of the program. U. S. appropriations for this year include funds to continue the development work at Malton.

July 1957