

Names In The News



MAURICE G. NIX

Maurice G. Nix was recently appointed experimental shop manager of the Gas Turbine Division of A. V. Roe Canada Limited. Before joining Avro Canada's Turbine Division in 1947, Mr. Nix had been associated with the Experimental Department of Rolls-Royce, England. He was with Rolls-Royce for nine years, and most of that period was in connection with experimental work. The last position he held with Rolls-Royce was that of Assistant to the Experimental Manager.

The appointment of Air Commodore D. M. Smith, CBE, of New Westminster, B.C., and Ottawa to be Deputy Air Member for Technical Services (Maintenance) at AFHQ, Ottawa, has been announced by the Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence. A/C Smith, who recently returned from attending the Imperial Defence College in the United Kingdom, will replace A/C J. G. Bryans, CBE, who has been transferred to the

United Kingdom where he will attend the next Imperial Defence College.

Gordon L. Best has been appointed manager of the Aircraft Division of Northwest Industries Limited. Mr. Best graduated from the Royal Military College in 1931 and joined the RAF in 1935. He was graduated from the Officers Course School of Aeronautical Engineering in 1937 and in 1941 he was posted to Canada as Chief Engineering Officer of one of the flying training schools of the BCATP.



GORDON L. BEST

He served in this capacity until 1942 when he became Chief Engineering Officer, HQ. No. 4 Training Command at Calgary. During the remainder of the war he served as Deputy Chief Engineering Officer, HQ., AEF in England and as Chief Engineering Officer, HQ., No. 45 Group at Dorval. He retired from the RAF in 1946 with the rank of Group Captain. He has since been associated with Prenco Progress and Engineering Corporation.

Leonard E. Fitchett of Victoria, B.C. was killed recently while flying for the Israeli in Palestine. He was reported to have been hit when forced to fly at a low level by anti-aircraft fire. He was considered one of the aces of the Israeli Air Force. He also had the distinction of being the last fighter pilot to shoot down an enemy aircraft in the European theatre of operations while he was serving with the RCAF during World War II.

Walter S. Thompson, Director of Public Relations and Advertising for CNR and TCA is relinquishing his airline activities as of December 31 of 1948. He will be succeeded by Rod C. MacInnes who is at present on loan to the department of National Defence as acting director of public relations in chief.

Mr. Thompson has been with TCA since its inception in 1937. During the war he was Director of Censorship, a phase of the war effort which he organized, and also Director of the Department of Public Information, which he also organized.



WALTER S. THOMPSON

DEC/48