

Provincial Operations.—The Ontario Provincial Air Service owns and operates, in fire protection, transportation, aerial photography and sketching in northern Ontario, 33 aircraft. Operations covered an area of about 800 miles from east to west, and 400 miles from north to south. A total of 14,119 hours was flown during 1930. Quebec and British Columbia contract with commercial firms for the flying they require.

Commercial Aviation.—During 1930 there were 135 commercial operating companies in Canada; their activities included forest fire patrols, timber cruising, aerial photography, transportation of passengers, of express and mail, instruction, advertising, short passenger flights, etc., in various parts of the country.

Air Mail Service.—Regular air mail services were established in January, 1928. Contracts have been awarded to commercial firms by the Post Office Department¹ for the following air mail routes:—*Winter Services:*—Leamington-Pelee Island; Quebec-Seven Islands-Anticosti; Moncton-Magdalen Islands; Moncton-Charlottetown. *Summer Services:*—Rimouski-Montreal-Ottawa; Lac du Bonnet-Bissett-Wadhope. *Annual Services:*—Montreal-Detroit; Montreal-Albany; Sioux Lookout-Red Lake area; Toronto-Buffalo; Oskelaneo-Chibougamau; McMurray-Aklavik; Winnipeg-Regina-Calgary; Regina-Saskatoon-Edmonton; Montreal-Saint John; Montreal-Quebec; Peace River-North Vermilion; Amos-Siscoe. Mail to the extent of 474,199 lb. has been carried under contract without loss or damage during 1930. Surveys for the extension of the present routes are being undertaken as follows:—Ottawa-Winnipeg; Toronto-Sudbury; Prairie Provinces to Vancouver.

Encouragement of Aviation.—To encourage a more widespread interest and knowledge of aviation, the Department of National Defence in 1928 assisted by issuing two light aeroplanes to each of 23 flying clubs in the following localities:—Halifax, Granby, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, London, Walkerville, Winnipeg, Regina, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Victoria, Cape Breton, Fort William, Saint John, Kingston, St. Catharines, Brantford and Brandon. Granby and Victoria have since withdrawn from the scheme. The total membership at present is 3,643. A total of 14,686 hours were flown, 178 members obtained private pilots' licences and 59 members obtained commercial pilots' licences during 1930. Many fine aerodromes have been established through this movement.

A large air terminal has been built at St. Hubert, seven miles south of Montreal, where a mooring tower for airships and an aerodrome are constructed; immigration, customs and postal facilities are available there. A terminal aerodrome has also been constructed at Rimouski for the despatch and reception of transatlantic mails by air.

Manufacture of Aircraft.—An aircraft industry, to construct in Canada the aircraft and equipment required for aviation, is essential to the sound development of flying. Canadian Vickers, the pioneer firm in Canada, maintain their own designing department and have produced several original types specially suited for operation in Canada. The increased interest and the growing operations of the Dominion and Provincial Governments and commercial operators, led to the establishment of increased manufacturing facilities. Several aircraft

¹ For particulars regarding the administration of the Air Mail Service see pp. 744 and 745.