

Numerous small radio-communication stations giving radiotelegraph and radio-telephone service to scattered settlements along the coast of Newfoundland, previously owned and operated by the Newfoundland Department of Posts and Telegraphs are now administered by the Department of Transport, but their operation was taken over by the Canadian National Telegraph which assumed responsibility for the elaborate network of telegraph and telephone communication in the new Province.

The principal international radio agreements and Canadian radio legislation can be grouped as follows:—

- (1) The International Telecommunication Convention and Regulations annexed thereto. The international obligations arising from this treaty are incorporated into the Radio Act of 1938, which also contains radio regulations of a purely domestic nature.
- (2) The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, the obligations of which are enforced through the Canada Shipping Act, which also includes additional domestic requirements. These instruments also cover ship construction and other aspects of marine safety, which are administered by other Divisions of the Department of Transport.
- (3) The North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement and the Canadian Broadcasting Act, 1936.
- (4) The Inter-American Radio Agreement.

**International and Commonwealth Conferences.**—During the year ended Mar. 31, 1950, many international telecommunication conferences were held. A number of these arose from the decision made at the Atlantic City Radio Conference, 1947, to undertake the international reorganization of radio high-frequency assignments of the world, in an effort to reduce congestion and interference in the high-frequency portion of the radio spectrum.

The Provisional Frequency Board, which is charged with the task of engineering that part of the new Frequency List relating to fixed and Maritime mobile services, began its work at Geneva, Switzerland, Jan. 15, 1948, and continued until Feb. 28, 1950. The importance of the technical matters involved necessitated representation throughout the course of the work by an officer of the Radio Division, Department of Transport, acting as the Canadian member on the Board, assisted by representatives of the Armed Services as technical advisers.

On Apr. 25, 1949, a joint International Telecommunication Union Region 2 and Fourth Inter-American Radio Conference convened at Washington, D.C. This Conference was preceded by a meeting of aeronautical communication experts to prepare data for consideration by the Conference. Three documents were signed at the close of this Conference on July 9, 1949, namely, the International Telecommunication Union Region 2 Resolutions and Recommendations, the Inter-American Radio Agreement and the Report to the International Administrative Aeronautical Radio Conference, Second Session. The last named contained a draft frequency allotment plan for the aeronautical mobile service in the Western Hemisphere.

The International Administrative Aeronautical Radio Conference reconvened at Geneva, Aug. 1, 1949, and concluded Oct. 14, 1949, a majority Agreement being reached on a basic frequency allotment plan for the aeronautical mobile service including international, regional and national air routes. Under this Agreement detailed frequency assignments to regional and national air routes are to be determined at regional implementation meetings.