

NOTES ON CURRENT PROJECTS.

SAWMILL:

With the completion of the Sawdust Incinerator next week, it will be possible to allow both Saws to produce at full rate.

Sales of timber in bulk have commenced, and facilities for loading into railway trucks will be utilised to effect delivery.

With the passing of the winter, forest logging has re-commenced.

No reply has yet been received to our application for an extension of our forest area, but information given by Mr. Currie after his talk with the Forestry Inspector on the site is that we will be given additional area.

DESIGN PROJECT:

This has now developed into a definite move by the Air Force to obtain Government approval for the production of a substantial order (50 at least) of Fighters of the Hawker "Zephyr" type, which will entail an immediate tooling-up task and the start of production in the factory within eighteen months.

Meanwhile, the design project is uncertain as to type, but investigation continues on the twin-engined fighter specification to ascertain if such an aircraft would be an acceptable proposition.

There is also the possibility of the trainer being the immediate design task, with the twin-engined fighter as a long-range project, seeing that the latter would take about two years to evolve.

ENAMELLING PLANT:

The actual Enamelling Plant is completed and ready for operation.

The immediate task is the completion of the 500-ton Press within a couple of weeks, and the try-out of the dies for Bath Pressings.

As soon as some pressings are available, the fabrication of the Bath can be tried out, and a trial run made of the whole scheme. This will check production times for the various operations. Meanwhile, we have taken up with Lysaght's the matter of the supply of sheet. A detailed investigation of production costs is in progress.

"NENE" PROJECT:

Before the end of this month, we expect to run an engine in the test house.

Many production work orders for Nene components are now being issued to the machine shops.

Tooling continues to be completed to schedule.

PRESSURE COOKERS:

We are now producing 700 per week, with orders in hand for six months' output. Sufficient materials are held to cover these orders.