

# Career Girls in Civilian Life Excel As RCAF Technicians

By OLIVE DICKASON

A career girl these days is not just a career girl.

She might be the most efficient private secretary in the world — and as a sideline she might also be a radar performance checker or a fighter control operator.

The reserve force of the R.C.A.F. is at present training girls two nights a week in the mysteries of radar, teletypes, and instruments in general. It's a specialized business, and women are proving themselves capable of becoming highly skilled technicians.

As a matter of fact . . . and don't let this be said too loudly . . . it has been conceded by the men that women are better than men in such fields as fighter control operators.

Montreal's No. 1 Radar and Communications (Reserve) Unit has 15 girls on course at present and about the same number doing a variety of jobs; No. 2401 Aircraft Control and Warning (Reserve) Unit has 30 girls in training. The girls come in Tuesdays and Thursdays for drill and lectures . . . and they're a hard working, enthusiastic group.

Sqdn. Ldr. J. L. Bourke, who is the commanding officer of Unit No. 2401, says that his group could train twice the number of girl reservists at the present time. The girls are accepted on the same basis as the men; and the courses that they take equip them to join the full time airforce if they wish with little extra training in their particular fields

The names of the courses open to

the reservists are quite impressive: communication performance checkers (ground), radar performance checkers (ground), fighter control operators, radio operators, teletype operators, instrument technicians.

Recruits are accepted between the ages of 18 and 29 years; ex-airwomen who are re-joining as officers will be accepted up to 40 years of age. Although most of the reservists hold full-time jobs, they are keen about their service training. To many of them, it is a wel-