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CONVERSION of the old wartime amphibian workhorse, variously known as the Canso or PBY, to the role of forest fire water and chemical bomber was to be demonstrated today at Pat Bay airport by three firms interested in the project—Fairey Aviation Co. of Canada Ltd. of Sidney, Harrington Air Service Ltd. of Wetaskiwin, Alta., and Liston Aircraft of Klamath Falls, Ore. Modification of the Canso has followed the same line as that used by Fairey Aviation on the Martin Mars of filling internal tanks while planing on the step. The conversion shown above, done by Liston at Klamath Falls, holds about 1,000 gallons of water or Bentonite chemical mix which it can scoop up in 45 seconds in one mile of travel at a speed of 72 knots. About two miles are required for landing, pick-up and take-off.

Pat Bayis near Victoria. The demonstration was for the B.C. Fourtry Dept.