



**P.O. O'BRIAN, SQUAD. LEADER O'BRIAN, GROUP CAPT. O'BRIAN**

Nobody has yet got around to calling them the "Flying O'Brians" but they're as near being an aerial family as the R.C.A.F. has to offer. Listed as a new arrival with R.C.A.F. men in Britain is Pilot Officer James A. O'Brian. Already overseas are his father, Group Captain G. O'Brian, and his brother, Squadron Leader P. G. O'Brian who ~~was~~ won the D.S.C. while serving with the R.A.F. All are from Tor

# Peter G. O'Brian Wins DFC; Father Got AFC in Last War

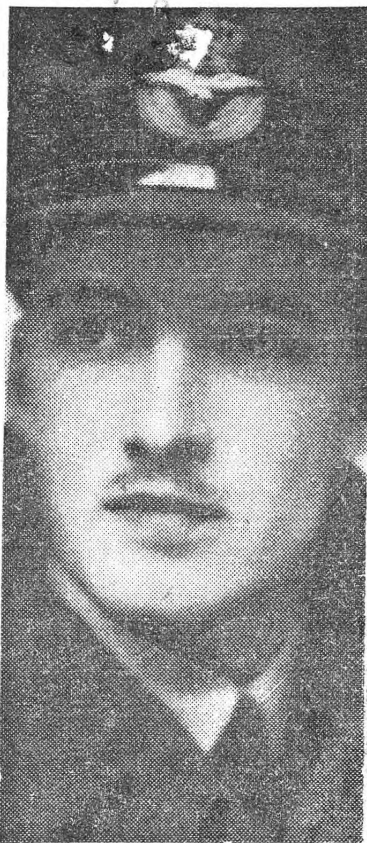
The old saying, "Like father like son," is well borne out in the case of the air-minded O'Brians of Toronto. A news despatch from London, England, last night told of the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Acting Squadron Leader Peter Geoffrey O'Brian of Toronto, "whose outstanding qualities as a leader set an excellent example."

The father is Group Captain Geoffrey Stuart O'Brian, A.F.C., officer commanding No. 16 Service Flying Training School at Hagersville, who served overseas with the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Air Force in the first Great War. Lawyer, educationist and business executive, the first love of Group Captain O'Brian has always been flying, and in 1932 he set a Toronto to Edmonton record by covering the 2,000 air miles in twenty hours.

Commander of an R.A.F. fighter squadron for thirteen months, during which he showed himself to be a born leader, the 24-year-old acting squadron leader took part in "one of the longest night flights ever undertaken by a single-seater fighter—displaying good judgment and fine navigational skill," according to the citation. It also described his participation in a large number of sorties both by day and night.

Acting Squadron Leader O'Brian was commissioned in the R.A.F. in 1937. He was educated at Trinity College School, Port Hope, and the University of Toronto, the same institutions attended by his father.

One of the leading organizers of the 110th City of Toronto (non-permanent) Squadron of the R.C.A.F., of which he was the first commanding officer, Group Captain



PETER GEOFFREY O'BRIAN

O'Brian was appointed officer commanding No. 1 Initial Training School (Eglinton) at the time it was started. Later he was named O.C. at Hagersville. A graduate of Osgoode Hall, he practiced law in the postwar period and was a master at St. Andrew's College for four years. Later he became an estates officer with a Toronto trust company.