

3.—The Air Board.

The Air Board Act of 1919 empowered the Governor in Council to appoint an Air Board, with a Minister of the Crown as chairman, to control aerodromes, aircraft, etc., and, generally, aerial navigation in Canada and its territorial waters. The work of the Board fell into three main divisions: the control of civil aviation, the direction of flying operations for other Departments of the Government and the direction of the Canadian Air Force.

By virtue of the National Defence Act of 1922, the powers, duties and functions vested in the Air Board by the Air Board Act or by any order or regulation made thereunder shall in future be administered, exercised and performed by the Minister of National Defence.

The executive duties of the Air Board are now carried out under the Chief of Staff by the Director of the Royal Canadian Air Force and staff.

The strength of the Royal Canadian Air Force (Permanent Service) on May 31, 1923, was 49 officers and 262 other ranks.

In 1922, 325 Air Officers (Non-permanent) were trained in short and long courses at Camp Borden.

The Royal Canadian Air Force has carried out flying operations for the following Departments of the Government: The Department of the Interior, the Department of Mines, the Department of Indian Affairs, the Department of Marine and Fisheries, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Customs, the Department of Immigration and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, as well as co-operating with the Canadian Militia at their annual training.

The money voted by Parliament for air service for the fiscal year ending March, 31, 1924, was \$1,250,000.

Training centres are established at Camp Borden, Ont., Winnipeg, Man., Jericho Beach, B.C., and Dartmouth, N.S.

4.—The Royal Military College.

The Royal Military College of Canada was founded in 1876 by the Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of Canada. Since its foundation, 1,710 gentlemen cadets have been enrolled; of this number 146 are now in attendance and approximately 175, though their names appear on the college roll as having been admitted, either did not actually do so, or if they did join, were only at the college a very short time. Over 900 took part in the war of 1914-1918 where 159 ex-cadets made the supreme sacrifice. Some 750 British and 90 foreign decorations have been awarded to ex-cadets, and many have risen to high rank in the service of their country. Three of the Canadian divisions serving in France were commanded by ex-cadets and an ex-cadet also commanded one of the Australian divisions at Gallipoli. The establishment of the College, as stated in the Act of 1874 (37 Vict., c. 36), was "for the purpose of imparting a complete education in all branches of military tactics, fortifications, engineering and general scientific knowledge in the subjects connected with and necessary to a thorough knowledge of the military profession, and for qualifying officers for command and staff appointments." In addition to the foregoing, the course of instruction is such as to afford a thorough, practical and scientific training in civil engineering, surveying, physics and chemistry, English and French. Strict discipline, combined with physical training, riding, drill and outdoor games, forms part of the curriculum.