

**Organization.**—Prior to 1922, three departments of the Canadian Government were concerned with the defence of Canada, viz., the Department of Militia and Defence, the Department of the Naval Service, and the Air Board.

During the session of 1922, the National Defence Act was passed, consolidating the Department of Militia and Defence, the Department of the Naval Service and the Air Board into the Department of National Defence. This Act became effective by proclamation on Jan. 1, 1923. Under it, there is a Minister of National Defence and a Deputy Minister of National Defence. To advise the Minister, a Defence Council has been constituted by Order in Council, consisting of a President (the Minister), a Vice-President (the Deputy Minister), and the following members: the Chief of the General Staff, the Chief of the Naval Staff, and the Senior Air Officer, Royal Canadian Air Force. The Adjutant-General, the Quartermaster-General, the Master-General of the Ordnance, and the Judge Advocate-General, are associate members. There is also a Secretary of the Council.

### Subsection 1.—The Naval Service.

The Naval Service of Canada was established by the Naval Service Act, 1910 (9-10 Edw. VII, c. 43), the main provisions of which were described in the 1910 Year Book, pp. xxvi-xxix.

The Royal Canadian Navy and its Reserve Forces are under the direction of the Chief of the Naval Staff, who is a member of the Defence Council. The Service consists of:—

1. Royal Canadian Navy (permanent).
2. Royal Canadian Naval Reserve (non-permanent).
3. Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve (non-permanent).

Administrative and operational staff for all three Forces is provided from the Royal Canadian Navy.

**The Royal Canadian Navy.**—The Royal Canadian Navy has an authorized complement of 117 officers and 1,222 ratings. A large majority of the men of the R.C.N. are serving under 7-year engagements. A small proportion consists of specialist gunnery, torpedo, and engine-room ratings, lent from the Royal Navy. (On Dec. 31, 1936, there were 2 Royal Navy officers and 12 Royal Navy ratings on loan to the Royal Canadian Navy.)

A proportion of the officers of the Royal Canadian Navy serves periodically in ships of the Royal Navy, to acquire experience in capital ships, cruisers, etc., and training courses are arranged for selected officers at the instructional schools of the Royal Navy to qualify in war staff, gunnery, torpedo, wireless and other duties. Courses for selected men in the gunnery, torpedo, wireless telegraphy and mechanical training schools of the Royal Navy are similarly arranged.

The ships of the Royal Canadian Navy are:—

- H.M.C.S. *Saguenay* (destroyer—in commission).
- H.M.C.S. *Skeena* (destroyer—in commission).
- H.M.C.S. *St. Laurent* (destroyer—in commission).
- H.M.C.S. *Fraser* (destroyer—in commission).
- H.M.C.S. *Armentières* (minesweeper—in commission).

H.M.C.S. *Champlain* and H.M.C.S. *Vancouver* were paid off on Dec. 1, 1936, and put on the sale list for breaking up in Canada. They were replaced by H.M.C.S. *St. Laurent* and H.M.C.S. *Fraser*, two modern destroyers completed in 1932, which were purchased from the Government of the United Kingdom.

A training schooner under construction has been named H.M.C.S. *Venture* and will be commissioned in the Royal Canadian Navy during the year 1937-38. Four new minesweepers will be laid down during this year.