

must be made, based on statistics accumulated in the past and adjusted, as well as can be foreseen, to the conditions of the present War. Reinforcements for the C.A.S.F. are being provided through the medium of depots and training centres. The men are enlisted at a depot and then proceed to a training centre in the district in which the unit was mobilized. Training units for the various arms have been established in many centres across Canada.

On May 21 the Government authorized the mobilization of an additional division for service in Canada or overseas, as might be required; soon after, the mobilization of still another division was authorized. As was the case in the first instance, the organization of these additional divisions was based on existing units of the Militia and their composition was worked out most carefully to give proportional representation, on the basis of population, to every part of the Dominion.

In May the Government also authorized the formation of thirteen companies of Veterans Home Guards, to be composed entirely of veterans of the War of 1914-18 and to be stationed at various points in Canada for home defence, as circumstances might require. This was immediately followed by the authorization of reserve companies of Veterans Home Guards. These reserve companies were to be formed, as may be deemed necessary, in various parts of Canada and were to be attached to units of the Militia for training and administration.

On June 18 further measures for home defence were taken by the Government when all Militia infantry units were authorized to recruit to full establishment where such a course was possible, having regard to armoury accommodation and training facilities available. Development work in connection with the provision of special types of mechanically propelled vehicles has been energetically pressed, and substantial orders for the requirements of the C.A.S.F., aggregating over 10,000 vehicles, had been placed. Of this total 7,500 were vehicles of special types, for which a large number of specification data and manufacturers' drawings had to be prepared.

A bill authorizing the conscription of the man-power for service in Canada and of the material resources of Canada for the prosecution of the War was passed by Parliament on June 19.

In the early part of July the formation of the Canadian Forestry Corps was authorized. This Corps is to provide companies of skilled personnel to assist the British Government in exploiting the timber resources of Great Britain for the furtherance of the war effort, and to economize on shipping.

On July 15 the Government announced the formation in the United Kingdom of a new Corps, to be composed of both United Kingdom and Canadian troops, including the 1st Division.

The Air Force.—Canada's numerically small but efficient air force responded quickly to the call to active service when war broke out in September, 1939. The highly trained peace-time nucleus was expanded quickly to meet the needs of war. Even while pre-arranged plans for building the Royal Canadian Air Force to war-time strength were being put into effect, the various permanent squadrons moved by air to their war stations.

Squadrons from central Canada flew to the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts to supplement naval and military defence forces. On the Atlantic, in co-operation with the Royal Canadian Navy and allied naval units, R.C.A.F. bombers and flying boats ranged far out to sea in search of enemy raiders. An unceasing coastal patrol was maintained from the air, convoys were escorted for the first few hundred miles of their journey across the ocean, and low-flying planes watched the depths for submarines. Special air squadrons became the eyes of the long-range coastal defence guns.