

Pre-War Civil Aviation and the Defence Program.—An article describing the developments of importance in civil aviation prior to the outbreak of war in 1939, and also the contribution that civil aviation has made to the air defence program, is given at pp. 608-612 of the 1941 edition.

Subsection 2.—Administration

The control of civil aviation in Canada is provided for by the Aeronautics Act (c. 3, R.S.C. 1927). Under this Act, air regulations have been completely revised and promulgated under Order in Council P.C. 1433, dated June 23, 1938, as the Air Regulations 1938. These regulations conform in essentials to the International Convention for Air Navigation.

The Controller of Civil Aviation is the officer in charge of the Civil Aviation Division of the Department of Transport. For the purpose of carrying out the duties and functions assigned to it, the Division is organized under the following sections: (1) Administration, (2) Air Regulations, (3) Airways and Airports, and (4) Aircraft Inspection. An outline of the functions of each of these sections is given under its respective heading below.

Administration Section.—This section is divided into three subsections: General Office Control, Accounting, and Information and Publications.

Air Regulations Section.—This section is in charge of the Superintendent of Air Regulations. The duties include the inspection and registration of aircraft and their certification for airworthiness; the examination and licensing of pilots and air engineers; supervision of flying clubs; prevention of dangerous flying; inquiries into the cause of aircraft accidents; and international flying.

Special Regulations.—The Airport Zoning Regulations, 1939, and the Defence of Canada Air Regulations, 1940, came into force after the outbreak of hostilities in 1939. The Airport Zoning Regulations forbid the erection of structures that would constitute hazards to flying in the vicinity of airports used directly or indirectly for military purposes.

The Defence Air Regulations, prepared in conjunction with the Defence Services, define a number of prohibited flying areas; prohibit the flying of private aircraft without special permission; prescribe the conditions for the entry of foreign aircraft into Canada; and generally lay down procedure in flying considered necessary in the interests of national safety.

Airways and Airports Section.—The duties of this section include the inspection, licensing and registration of airports and seaplane bases; the licensing of scheduled air-transport operations; the construction and maintenance of airports and intermediate aerodromes on such portions of the Trans-Canada Airway as are not serviced by municipal airports; the lighting of government airports and air routes; the development and construction of radio range sites and the erection of radio range stations with the exception of the installation of radio equipment, which work is done by the Radio Division; the construction of buildings and telephone and power lines; and the calibration and testing of radio aids to air navigation.

Since the outbreak of war this section has been given the added responsibility of assisting the Department of National Defence in the selection and construction of airports to be used under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan.