

In 1911, Canada's red-coated troopers were the cynosure of millions of eager eyes as, with their matchless horses, they shared in the Guard of Honour at the Coronation of His Majesty King George V, at London.

The Period of the First World War.—Early in the War of 1914-18, the strength of the Force was increased to 1,268, but enlistments in the Armed Services soon left the strength well below the authorized number. In 1917 the Force was relieved of many of its duties in Saskatchewan, Alberta, and northern Manitoba, in order to give more effective attention to 1,900 miles of International Boundary as well as to centre attention on the alien population. The strength was allowed to fall to 656 but, despite this reduction, 26,356 patrols were made covering more than 800,000 miles. Intensive work was being done in the north under most difficult conditions at a time when British Armies were making a desperate stand in France. So general had been the desire among the men to enlist for overseas service, it became necessary for the Prime Minister to point out that the organization was more essential than ever. It was not until 1918 that the Government consented to the Police leaving for active service, when what was termed "A" Squadron embarked for France and "B" Squadron went to Siberia. So heavy were the demands on the Force that, in spite of the recruiting of several hundred additional men, the strength fell to 303—practically down to the number of the "Originals" who had struck across the plains in 1874. The Government then resolved upon a new and permanent establishment, an extension of jurisdiction and a strength of 1,200.

In 1918, the Royal North West Mounted Police was assigned the duty of enforcing Dominion legislation for the whole of Canada west of Port Arthur and Fort William. An extension of governmental activities made it obvious that the enforcement of Dominion statutes throughout Canada must be the responsibility of a Dominion Force and, therefore, the jurisdiction of the Royal North West Mounted Police was extended to the whole of Canada early in 1920. In that year, the name of the Force was changed to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the former Dominion Police, with Headquarters at Ottawa, whose duties were largely connected with guarding public buildings in that city and the Canadian Government dockyards at Halifax, N.S., and Esquimalt, B.C., were absorbed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. New detachments were established at Port Burwell on an island in Hudson Strait and at Pond Inlet in the Eastern Arctic.

The Broadening of Duties During the Inter-War Period.—The strength of the Force at the time of the 50th anniversary in 1923 was 1,148. The same year, a detachment was established at Craig Harbour in Ellesmere Land—then the nearest British post to the North Pole; the location of other detachments followed throughout the North. Famous Arctic patrols that added to the lustre of the history of the Mounted Police were made in 1923-24. A 'farthest' post was established on Bache Peninsula in the remote North in 1926. Patrols entered Coronation Gulf and the Anderson River in the Arctic in 1929-30. Like the red man of the plains, the Eskimo accepted the firm but co-operative hand of authority.

The depression years following 1930 constituted a period of consolidation for the Force: this period extended until the outbreak of war in 1939. The field of responsibility was rapidly expanded outside the normal realm of police duty and the Force was fully modernized. In the Provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island the Provincial Police were replaced by the R.C.M.P. In 1932, the duties of the Preventive Service of the