

establishments training. In order to standardize the professional knowledge of all lieutenants of the executive branch, 11 month technical and leadership courses for junior officers have been conducted since 1949. A Technical Apprenticeship Training program was introduced in August 1952 to assist in overcoming the shortage of skilled tradesmen. HMCS *Cape Breton*, a 10,000 ton maintenance vessel, was equipped and commissioned especially for this purpose.

As part of the naval aviation training program short service appointment midshipmen specializing in naval aviation undergo a 12 month basic course before starting flying training. The first six months are spent in HMCS *Cornwallis* and the second term is spent aboard a cruiser. Training of pilots, observers, air engineering and maintenance personnel, observers' mates and others connected with naval aviation is carried out at HMCS *Shearwater* with further training aboard HMCS *Magnificent*. HMCS *Stadacona* also provides additional instruction in some technical subjects. As part of the naval aviation program exercises are carried out in conjunction with the Royal Navy, the Royal Canadian Air Force and the United States Navy.

To meet the demand for officers for the expanding Navy a seven year short service scheme known as the "Venture Plan" was introduced in September 1954 and a new training establishment, HMCS *Venture*, was commissioned in Esquimalt, B.C. Also HMCS *Ontario* assumed the role of cadet training ship.

Junior officers of the engineering and executive branches on completion of their initial training in Canada proceed to the United Kingdom to take sub-lieutenant courses in gunnery, torpedo, anti-submarine, navigation direction and ship construction. Advanced training in certain highly technical fields and in staff duties is undertaken by selected officers in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States.

At HMCS *d'Iberville*, where both the French and the English languages are used, the program is designed to give all French-speaking regular force new entries a basic knowledge of English together with preliminary training in seamanship and professional naval subjects. French-speaking new entries join the classes in HMCS *Cornwallis* at an appropriate stage in their training.

Ship Construction, Refitting and Modernization.—Work on the construction of 14 new destroyer escorts has continued steadily. The first vessel of the Class, HMCS *St. Laurent*, was commissioned on Oct. 29, 1955. The skills learned during the early part of the program are now beginning to show results. The first of 14 minesweepers was completed on Nov. 1, 1954 when HMCS *Fortune* was accepted. The keels of two of the six minesweepers being built to replace the six transferred to France as part of Canada's Mutual Aid program were laid by Oct. 1, 1955.

HMCS *Crescent* was completely modernized and converted at Esquimalt and was commissioned as an Algonquin Class Destroyer Escort. The program for the modernization and conversion of frigates progressed steadily and at the end of 1955 was 85 p.c. complete. The aircraft carrier, HMCS *Bonaventure*, was under construction at Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve).—Naval Divisions are established in the following centres:—

St. John's, Nfld., HMCS *Cabot*
 Corner Brook, Nfld., HMCS *Caribou*
 Charlottetown, P.E.I., HMCS *Queen Charlotte*
 Halifax, N.S., HMCS *Scotian*
 Saint John, N.B., HMCS *Brunswick*
 Quebec, Que., HMCS *Montcalm*
 Montreal, Que., HMCS *Donnacona*
 Toronto, Ont., HMCS *York*
 Ottawa, Ont., HMCS *Carleton*
 Kingston, Ont., HMCS *Cataract*
 Hamilton, Ont., HMCS *Star*

Windsor, Ont., HMCS *Hunter*
 London, Ont., HMCS *Prevost*
 Port Arthur, Ont., HMCS *Griffin*
 Winnipeg, Man., HMCS *Chippawa*
 Regina, Sask., HMCS *Queen*
 Saskatoon, Sask., HMCS *Unicorn*
 Calgary, Alta., HMCS *Tecumseh*
 Edmonton, Alta., HMCS *Nonsuch*
 Vancouver, B.C., HMCS *Discovery*
 Victoria, B.C., HMCS *Malahat*
 Prince Rupert, B.C., HMCS *Chatham*