

Training Ashore.—Two major shore establishments, *Stadacona* at Halifax and *Naden* at Esquimalt, are maintained by the Royal Canadian Navy to serve as drafting depots, training schools and centres, and to provide the accommodation facilities required by the fleets based on both coasts. In each of these establishments, schools and training centres afford instruction for both officers and men of the RCN and RCN(R) in communications, gunnery, torpedo, anti-submarine, navigation direction, electrics and electronics, marine engineering, seamanship, naval ordnance, supply and secretariat duties, diving, damage control and fire-fighting.

A third major shore establishment is the RCN Air Station *Shearwater*, at Dartmouth, N.S., which provides training facilities, shore accommodation and storage for naval aviation.

H.M.C.S. *Cornwallis* at Cornwallis, N.S., is devoted exclusively to training and its organization and program are arranged accordingly. The course for new entries extends over 19 weeks. During this period a new entry receives basic instruction in naval subjects, studies mathematics and English, and participates in an extensive program of physical training, sports and recreation.

In February 1952, the first draft of French-speaking recruits arrived at the Basic Training School, H.M.C.S. *Montcalm*, at Quebec, Que., for initial training prior to commencing courses in H.M.C.S. *Cornwallis*. All regular-force recruits whose mother tongue is French will undergo preliminary training at this school in professional naval subjects including seamanship, boatwork, organization, parade training, supply duties, torpedo anti-submarine, engineering, communications and naval history. Instruction is given in French and in English, with emphasis on the use of naval terminology. The program is designed to enable new entries from the Basic Training School to join classes in H.M.C.S. *Cornwallis* at an appropriate stage in their training.

In August 1952, the Navy began a program to train naval apprentices between the ages of 16 and 19. The apprentices enrol for seven years. The total training program lasts for 39 months. The first group began technical training in January 1953 aboard H.M.C.S. *Cape Breton*, an escort maintenance vessel, at Halifax, N.S. Apprentices are trained as engine-room artificers, shipwrights, electrical technicians, air artificers and armourers. Upon graduation, apprentices join the fleet as Petty Officers second class.

Officers of the Royal Canadian Navy come from four main sources: (1) Canadian Services colleges; (2) universities; (3) commissioning from the ranks of the active force; and (4) short-service appointments.

Ship Construction, Refit and Modernization.—Work is progressing on the construction of anti-submarine escort vessels; three vessels will be completed late in 1954 and others are in various stages of construction. Four coastal minesweepers were scheduled for completion during 1953 and others are under construction. Work continues on other miscellaneous and harbour craft. The extensive conversion of one destroyer as a prototype for conversion of other destroyer escorts has been completed and the conversion of another destroyer has commenced. Rearmament has been completed on four destroyers and two others will be modernized by early 1954. Work on the 16 frigates, 18 Bangor class minesweepers and two diesel minesweepers brought out of strategic reserve for refitting and modernization continues and is expected to be completed by the spring of 1954.