

were instituted during this period. During the year, 9,604 personnel attended courses at various schools of instruction. Initial instruction in current affairs, consisting of 12 lectures, was given to recruits during their depot and recruit training. This instruction is continued for officers and men of the Canadian Army (Regular) on the basis of one lecture each week. Examinations were held to select regular officers to attend the Canadian Army Staff College and the Royal Military College of Science and to qualify militia officers for command and staff appointments. Airborne Arctic training continued for all Mobile Striking Force units. Junior NCO courses were conducted under command and formation arrangements and senior NCO courses were conducted at corps schools. French-language instruction was given at Army Headquarters, in all commands and at the Canadian Army Training School for English-speaking officers and NCO's. Fifteen members of the armed forces of other North Atlantic Treaty countries attended courses conducted at Canadian Army schools of instruction.

Trades and specialist training was given at corps schools or units. When feasible, the facilities of civilian schools are used to supplement training at Army establishments. Trades training is conducted in accordance with the training standards for the appropriate trades. During the past year, several new trades and specialties were authorized and individual units are now training more tradesmen and specialists, thereby lightening the training load at corps schools while increasing the total training capacity. To recognize skills and proficiency required in the fighting arms, new specialties have been recommended so that a soldier in the fighting arms will have the opportunity of progressing to higher group pay.

In order to develop and maintain a high standard of physical fitness in the Canadian Army (Regular) a Physical Training Cadre was authorized and the development of the Cadre is to be carried out by stages over the next few years.

The Apprentice Training program, instituted in January 1953, and designed to train soldier apprentices as tradesmen and to provide basic military and academic qualification for advancement during their service, continued throughout the period under review. During 1953, a total of 470 apprentices were enrolled. To provide academic instruction for soldier apprentices, 24 civilian teachers were employed under arrangements with the Department of Labour. Examinations provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs will enable the students to obtain educational credits recognized in all provinces. Apprentices are being trained as clerks, carpenters, electricians, wireless operators, bandsmen, line mechanics, radio mechanics, cooks, medical assistants, storemen, telecommunication mechanics, gun mechanics, vehicle mechanics and armourers. Apprentices' sleeping and ablution accommodation is separate from that used by other troops.

Equipment.—The Canadian Army equipment development program continues to concentrate on those fields particularly suited to Canadian capabilities and in which there are special Canadian needs.

Particular attention has been given to the problem of living and operating in the north under the most severe and adverse conditions. The development and evaluation of defence equipment for atomic, biological and chemical warfare continued in close co-operation with the RCN, RCAF and Defence Scientific Service. The standardization program in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada and within NATO continues to promote an exchange of knowledge to the mutual advantage of the armies concerned. Additional agreements were reached affecting