

32. Ratings - Recruiting & Training

The cancellation of Wren call-ups during the months of December 1943, the extension of the basic training period to 8 weeks and reduced quota allowed to the Accountant Branch necessitated the revision of the existing Accountant Branch recruiting and extension training programme. The present schedule of recruiting is as follows:

Wrens	30	Writers	30
Supply Assistants	20	Wardroom Attendants	20
Cooks	15		

Every 5 weeks

To compensate for the loss of trained personnel occasioned by the above reduction and interruption in the training schedule, it was necessary to re-open the recruiting of male writers and increase the recruiting of male Supply Assistants, Stewards, and cooks and these are presently being recruited as follows:

- Ratings - Writers - 60 immediately
30 every 5 weeks thereafter
- Supply Assistants 50 every 5 weeks
- Stewards - 50 every 5 weeks
- Cooks - 85 every 5 weeks

33. The Accountant Branch continues to be short of all rates due principally to the disappointing recruiting in some Wren categories. The re-opening and acceleration of recruiting in the male branches will, it is hoped, make up these shortages by the time the navigation season opens.

34. To date, recruiting has been somewhat spasmodic but every effort is being made to maintain the numbers required for classes.

35. The Naval Staff approved the addition of one leading writer to all Bangor class Minesweepers and Corvettes. This has definitely acted as a "shot in the arm" for the Writer Branch and there is no question but that ships and shore establishments will mutually benefit from this addition to complement.

36. W.R.C.N.S.
The second draft of W.R.C.N.S. was sent to the United Kingdom for duty with S.C.N.C.

37. Call-ups were stopped for December owing to lack of accommodation. Attestations, except in the domestic categories, were also stopped. Some additional accommodation was secured during the period. The Presbyterian College in Montreal, and a staff house in Prince Rupert were taken over.

38. The training of W.R.C.N.S. cooks was transferred to the new Naval Cookery School at H.M.C.S. "CORNWALLIS".