



A study in horse power. A monster F3 flying boat used on Lake Winnipeg for forest fire patrol being towed to its anchorage by a small skiff equipped with an Evinrude outboard motor.

## Air Board Events

(Special Parliamentary Correspondence)

THE recent decision of the Canadian Government to consolidate the Defence Forces of Canada, Land, Sea and Air, into one department to be known as the Department of National Defence is expected to bring about several changes in the personnel and operation of the Canadian Air Board. As regards the former, several changes have already been effected. Three former R. A. F. officers who were seconded for duty with the Air Board have been permitted to return to the R. A. F. to resume their duties as permanent officers of that Force. The most prominent of these, Wing Commander (Col.) Robert Leckie, has been one of the most active and efficient members of the Air Board staff since the formation of that body about three years ago, and has contributed very materially to the success of the Operations branch, both by reason of his executive ability and his skill as an aviator. Col. Leckie's record both as a war and a peace pilot entitles him to the respect of all Canadians and his future career, which it is understood will necessitate his return to the British Isles, will be followed with interest by his scores of well-wishers in this country. Squadron Leader J. A. Glen and Flight Lieut. John Barron, the other retiring officers, also have splendid records of achievement with the Air Board, and their departure is also sincerely regretted.

### Air Force Plans

The Canadian Air Force will remain, as at present, a separate service in the new Department. All aeronautical and technical functions will continue as in the past. The two flying branches, C. A. F. and Civil Operations, will, it is expected, be combined in one Service and all flying in future will be undertaken by the C. A. F.

Wing Commander J. S. Scott has been appointed to the command of the C. A. F. at Camp Borden, succeeding Squadron Leader J. A. Glen, whose term recently expired.

Under the Act of consolidation which at the time of writing was before Parliament the Minister of the Department of National Defence will exercise the powers vested in the Air Board by the Air Board Act of 1919. The purpose of the Bill is to effect economies in administrative services and to obtain greater efficiency and closer co-operation between the three services. When the Bill becomes law and the reorganization of the services is completed, the Air Board as a separate entity will cease to exist. The administrative services such as accounting, records, works, quartermasters and office supplies, libraries, etc., will be consolidated.

Until the Bill is law and the reorganization is further advanced no details are available as to the new form of organization, but it is expected that the scheme now being perfected will permit of the continuance of all the present activities of the Air Board, even though some of these may have to be temporarily reduced in scale because of the reduction in the Estimates. Arrangements have been made to carry out the full programme of work arranged for at the Civil Stations during the flying season of 1922.

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