

It ranked next below a Frigate, was fast sailing and easy
to manoeuvre -- in these two respects it was like the corvettes
of the Royal Canadian Navy.

Corvettes are small, speedily despatched for escort and anti-
submarine duties.

Canadian frigates are larger than these vessels but in large
numbers. Completed in design and packed with equipment,
it required approximately 375,000 man-hours of labour to
build and outfit one of these ships. Designing and building
a corvette calls for great skill because of the large
quantity of equipment to be fitted into the small space of
the ship. The number of corvettes ordinarily for escort purposes
cannot be revealed. However, in November of 1942, they were listed
as well over 75 strong.

Specifications of the latest and fastest of this type of ship
are as follows: Corvettes which were built during the earlier
part of the war were 190 feet in length and included armament
of a 4-inch gun, machine gun, and depth charges. The total
cost was \$100,000.

These ships have a "torpedo hull" but they are extremely
seaworthy and easy to manoeuvre. They will not break under
the strain of wind and weather.

MINESWEEPERS

Local patrol and protection in Canada's defence zones on
both Atlantic and Pacific shores is an important part of the
Canadian Navy's work. Minesweepers must be capable on con-
tinually. But Canadian minesweepers are designed for more
duties than their name would imply. They have proved most
efficient in escort and anti-submarine duty.