

Marine section equipment: The liquor traffic in the Maritime Provinces has at all times called for great vigilance, and aircraft provided by the Royal Canadian Air Force, carrying police observers, have co-operated with cruisers and land forces in combating the landing of liquor in the three provinces concerned.

59. A total of thirty patrol vessels were taken over from the former Preventive Service, varying in size from thirty-five to one hundred and eighty feet in length, also the personnel of the vessels, approximately two hundred and thirty officers and men. It was found that a number of the vessels were obsolete, and costly to maintain, and a program was undertaken to substitute new vessels of approved type and low maintenance.

60. As an example of the high cost of operation of certain vessels taken over, the Margaret and Conestoga are cited. Records show that the cost of operating the former for a ten months' cruising period was well over \$100,000, and the latter for an eight months' cruising period, \$40,000. Both vessels were disposed of by sale shortly after we assumed the duties of the Preventive Service. The following comparative figures for the combined operating and capital expenditure for Preventive Service patrol boats and cruisers are taken from the Auditor General's reports for the respective years:

1931-32.. . . .	\$887,091 06
1932-33.. . . .	517,424 47
1934-35.. . . .	513,734 78

61. The personnel to-day is a trained force employed on a yearly basis. They receive marine training and courses in preventive work during the lay-up period. Promotion is limited to advancement from the ranks, and every inducement is given to a man to better himself. In addition, the men are now eligible for pension.

62. The prevention to-day is more effective than in 1932. Some of the cruisers have been equipped with small, high-speed contact boats, which can be lowered over the side and chase rum-runners.

63. Recent additions to the fleet are small sixty-foot vessels of a very seaworthy type, capable of navigating in very shallow water and very effective in searching coves, etc., where they can be run up on the shore without any damage to the vessel. The cost of maintenance of such units is exceptionally low. Two new steel cruisers now under construction will add to the effectiveness of next season's patrol at a low cost.

64. Our present marine equipment is not all that could be desired, and a program for additional construction of patrol vessels during the present year, which would have further strengthened our defence, has had to be postponed in view of the curtailment of our estimates presented for the purpose. Additional wireless equipment, for our patrol vessels, and further motor transport are needed.

Conclusions

Sources and uses of information: Another factor which has proven important in preventive measures is the necessity of dealing liberally with informers who assist the Force in locating caches of liquor, or who supply information of intended landings, etc. The system of utilizing informers in police and preventive work is sometimes criticized, but it is a matter of record that many seizures

are a direct result of information supplied and no successful alternative has yet been found to replace this type of service. It is our belief that a greater measure of reward to informers than that at present provided by the regulations would be justified, in the final analysis, by the suppression of smuggling and the resultant revenues which would be recouped through forcing consumers to utilize legitimate channels to obtain their supplies.

Legal assistance: It is considered that it would be of advantage to have permanent counsel appointed in all large centres to prosecute on behalf of the Crown in cases under the Customs and Excise Acts. It has been our experience that certain counsel specialize in the defence of individuals charged with infractions of those Acts, and are invariably retained by persons so indicted, whereas under the present system instructions are sometimes received to employ counsel with little experience in cases of this type, who are hopelessly outclassed by defence counsel of the type referred to above.

Efficiency of service: In conclusion I would state that at the present time members of the Force have the necessary powers to enforce the Customs and Excise Acts and are being thoroughly trained for the work, and that the Force is equipped as far as possible with a personnel to take care of situations as they arise. It is realized that we must be ever on the alert to offset the new tactics introduced by the law-breakers as they arise, the new equipment which they use, and systematic study which they evidently give to their problems.

68. The cost of the Preventive Service as a whole has been consistently reduced, as indicated by the following figures. The vote for Preventive Service, 1931-32, was slightly in excess of \$2,100,000; amount of vote transferred to the R.C.M. Police from the Department of National Revenue when the duties were assumed, on April 1, 1932, slightly in excess of \$1,500,000; the present annual cost is approximately \$1,000,000.

69. We are under no illusions as to the extent of the liquor traffic, and while every attempt is made to combat the ever-changing tactics of the rum-running fraternity, we do feel that there is much to be done.

Education of public: It is felt that education of the public to the serious effects of the illicit liquor trade would have valuable results. We have found that very reputable people have been quite frankly unsympathetic towards enforcement of laws respecting liquor traffic until it has been pointed out to them that the weaknesses of people for obtaining their liquor supply through illicit sources are being exploited to the detriment of the country and its revenue.

Yours very truly,

J. H. MacBrien,
Commissioner.

The explanation is lengthy, but I think it was worth while to inform the House of what the Preventive Service is accomplishing under very great difficulties. This statement will go out to the public with the preceding one explaining the reduction in duties, and if after publication of these statements there appears some further criticism which would