

The following is a partial survey of Canadian war service organizations, arranged in alphabetical order. Additional organizations are discussed in Reference Paper 13, "Canadian Women In The War," of August 4, 1943.

**AIR RAID
PRECAUTIONS**

Air Raid Precautions in Canada is a nation-wide plan, organized, co-ordinated and directed under the Minister of Pensions and National Health by the office of the Director of Civil Air Raid Precautions, with headquarters in Ottawa. The underlying policy of the plan is based upon a study of civilian protection made by a special inter-departmental committee of the government appointed in March, 1938, which inquired into and reported on non-military measures to be adopted against the possibility of air attacks, bombardment, sabotage or other forms of hostile action. The committee's report, submitted just prior to the outbreak of war, was adopted as the blueprint upon which an overall plan was organized and set in motion.

Actual implementation of air raid precaution measures is a local responsibility, to be assumed voluntarily by local authorities and citizens in their own interests and for their own protection.

A decentralized plan of organization and administration, providing for the most efficient operation of precautionary measures, has been adopted. Committees familiar with local needs have been set up in each of the nine provinces, and responsibility for organization and administration in areas considered to be subject to the risk of enemy attack has been assumed by the relevant provincial authorities. Necessary authority for this purpose has been delegated to the provincial Premiers concerned, or their designates.

The Department of Pensions and National Health has been authorized to make expenditures out of special war appropriations for the purpose of providing small credits to the provinces for initial organizational expenses, literature, and other printed matter required by A.R.P. workers and the general public. The Department is further authorized to procure and make available to the provinces certain equipment essential to the carrying out of precautionary measures, and to assist in defraying, within prescribed limits, a substantial part of the expenditures incurred by municipalities within areas considered to be subject to the risk of enemy attack.

A compensation scheme, similar to Workmen's Compensation Acts in the various provinces, has been adopted by the Dominion government for A.R.P. workers who are killed or injured in the performance of their duties, or, in certain instances, while engaged in training. Administration of these measures is vested in the Canadian Pension Commission. Total injury allowances of \$1,631.14 had been made to A.R.P. workers up to March 31, 1943. Included in the compensation scheme are provisions for medical care, hospitalization, and allowances for the injured A.R.P. worker and his dependents, or, in the case of death incurred as a result of enemy action while engaged in the performance of duties, pension for the dependents of such A.R.P. worker.

Provincial A.R.P. committees have full jurisdiction over local A.R.P. or civil defense organizations under the federal scheme. In all matters pertaining to air raid precautions, including aid in the form of financial assistance, equipment and supplies, the Dominion government deals directly with the provincial committees and not with individual municipalities or local A.R.P. organizations.

Up to July, 1943, the Dominion government had spent \$4,683,152.25 in assisting organization of provincial and local A.R.P. groups, and \$416,456.61 for equipment and supplies distributed to the provinces. The estimate for the current fiscal year, ending March 31, 1944, is \$6,589,650., including \$2,700,000. for equipment ordered in 1942 but not delivered and other equipment required during the present year; \$2,250,000. for civilian respirators; and \$800,000 for assistance to the provinces and municipalities.