

Destroyers

A flotilla of eight Tribal class destroyers is being built for the Royal Canadian Navy. Two have already been commissioned in the Canadian Naval Service -- the 'Labrador' and the 'Protona'.

Tribal class destroyers are among the best and fastest afloat. They are heavily armed, carrying as part of their armament eight 4.2-inch guns -- twice the number of guns on the destroyers with which Canada entered the war. They carry a crew of 120 and have four 81-inch torpedoes.

In exchange for land bases with the Empire, the British Commonwealth of Nations received from the U.S. fifty over-age destroyers. Canada's allotment of these was seven.

These were a most valuable addition to Canada's naval strength.

In October 1939 the R.C.N. took over the destroyer 'Kampanella' for which the Canadian Government had been negotiating before the war started. From the R.N. as flotilla leader for the Canadian fleet. The ship was re-baptized the 'Assiniboia'.

Corvettes

Although Tribal class destroyers are being added as fast as they can be secured, the greatest strength of the Royal Canadian Navy lies in her corvettes.

The first corvette launched in Canada was not built to carry German submarines. It was a 500-ton ship constructed for the Royal Canadian Navy, a builder of ships for Louis XV of France, and launched at Quebec in 1753. A corvette was a ship of war.