

There are several sources for officers. We have carefully worked out arrangements whereby university students are trained for commissions both in the Permanent and Reserve forces. Similarly, selected men from the ranks are trained either at the Service Colleges or universities. A number of vacancies have been kept for veterans who are completing their education at the universities. There are also flexible arrangements whereby candidates may achieve the same standards by training at local headquarters combined with practical work at the various corps schools.

In all these arrangements every one of the universities of Canada is co-operating in the most helpful and constructive way. They are doing this because they regard it as a work of national service and I would like to express to them the appreciation and thanks of the government.

As the war neared its end the question arose as to what should be the role of R.M.C. and Royal Roads in the post war establishment. There were many alternatives and different views and the matter was studied by the government and the Services for many months. In December 1946, as Minister for the three Services, I was charged with the responsibility of unifying the Department and as far as possible co-ordinating the work of the Services. The government felt that the fact that combined operations under unified command was necessary to win the war was a lesson which must be applied in peacetime. You can imagine that this gave a rather wide field for operations. There was a great deal to be done. I felt that it was desirable that any cadet college training men for the defence of this country should be on a tri-service basis, that the segregation of services into compartments should not be started at the age of 17 or 18. If officers of the three Services got on a first name basis from the day of their entering their cadet schools, there was more hope that they would be on speaking terms when they became admirals and generals and air marshals. After a good deal of consideration by the service chiefs and myself, I appointed as chairman of an inter-service committee, Air Vice Marshal Stedman, C.B., O.B.E., who since his retirement had taken a very active interest in the work of Carleton College. Air Vice Marshal Stedman and other officers visited the officer training establishments in England and the United States. This committee and myself also received helpful representations from representatives of the R.M.C. Club.

In consequence, the Stedman Committee reported to me and with the Chiefs of Staff and other officers, we worked out the arrangements under which R.M.C. and Royal Roads are opening today.

We are hopeful that they will, with the other plans to which I have referred, produce the highest type of officer and the best kind of citizen.

In entrance requirements, curriculum, conditions of work and every other respect, both colleges are on the same basis. Together they are known as the Canadian Service Colleges.

For the first two years the courses will be the same at both and will be the equivalent of the first two years of an Arts course at a university with additional engineering subjects. At the end of two years cadets going into the executive and marine engineering branches of the Navy will go on for special naval training. All others will proceed to finish their course at R.M.C. where the curriculum and standards will be arranged to give the equivalent in general education of an Arts degree, as well as the standard required to enter the fourth year in engineering