Canada's representative in INTERPOL is also the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Recruiting Methods

For such a variety of tasks, men of many talents are required, yet each candidate must possess personal integrity, a high degree of intelligence and a sense of responsibility. The selection of recruits is made from applicants possessing the basic qualifications by means of educational examinations, psychometric tests and interviewing.

To qualify, an applicant must be a British subject or Canadian citizen resident in Canada, between the ages of 18 and 29, single, at least 5'8" in height, physically fit and able to speak, read and write English or French. Members of the RCMP cannot marry until they have served two years and are 21 years of age. The initial enlistment period is for five years and a member is eligible for a life pension after 20 years service under the provisions of the RCMP Act. Careful selection at recruit level is followed by periodic interviews throughout the entire career of the member. The recruit's six months of training includes drill, firearms instruction, criminal law, investigation, public relations, swimming, physical training and a great variety of academic and social subjects.

The training and development program is of very wide scope and of a continuing nature. Advanced training in investigation, management and specialized instruction is provided. In 1938, the RCMP instituted the Canadian Police College, which provides courses in Ottawa to members and selected personnel of other police forces in Canada and around the world.

The RCMP Quarterly, which is available to the public by subscription, is a popular and much-quoted magazine. The RCMP Musical Ride has been acclaimed in Britain, Japan and North America as a fine display of horsemanship. The force's band, first established in 1876, has evolved into an élite concert ensemble and plays to a live audience approaching half a million a year.

Despite its many extracurricular activities, the RCMP remains the "Silent Force", unpretentious and unobtrusive. Quietly and without fanfare it lives up to the motto: "Maintiens le Droit".

RP/A