

DENTAL CORPS ANNIVERSARY

The Royal Canadian Dental Corps observes its fiftieth anniversary this year.

In April 1915, military headquarters authorized the formation of the Canadian Army Dental Corps. Before that, civilian dentists who had voluntarily set up a clinic in a converted cow-stable at Toronto's exhibition grounds had been providing treatment to recruits. From this beginning, the Corps has grown in size and efficiency to today's well-equipped force of 184 officers and 331 other ranks, plus 65 civilians.

The RCDC is one of the few Canadian military organizations that do not have to adjust to integration; it has been operating on this basis since 1939.

SERVICE IN WORLD WAR I

During the First World War, the Canadian Army Dental Corps saw service in all fields where the Canadian Army was fighting. The president of the British Dental Association said in 1915 that the Canadian Army was the only one in the world that attempted to send its soldiers to the front "dentally fit" and kept them so.

At the end of the war, the Corps was demobilized, but before this every practicable effort was made to ensure that each soldier returning from overseas for release was dentally healthy. This huge task was completed about the end of 1919. Disbanded in 1920, the Corps was re-authorized in June of the following year, but its fortunes faltered between the wars and the dental needs of the army were largely administered through the Medical Corps by contracting civilian dentists.

SERVICE IN WORLD WAR II

On the outbreak of the Second World War, the CDC war organized along the lines recommended by a committee of the Canadian Dental Association to serve all three services. At its wartime peak, the Corps consisted of 40 companies, of which 18 were overseas, 14 looking after the army, three the Royal Canadian Air Force and one the Royal Canadian Navy. In Canada, 22 companies were distributed in proportion to the services concentrations.

Dental officers and men served in every theatre of war and gave treatment closer to the front lines than those of any other country, by means of field dental kits and dental vans that often rolled almost onto the battlefield.

NEW NAME ADOPTED

Both regular and militia formations were redesignated the Royal Canadian Dental Corps on January 15, 1947. Today, members of the RCDC are employed wherever Canadian armed forces are to be found, using the most modern equipment and the latest techniques. They served in the Far East during United Nations operations in Korea and are serving now in Europe, Egypt and Cyprus.

FULL-TIME COLLEGE ENROLMENT

Full-time university-grade enrolment in Canadian universities and colleges at December 1, 1964, was 178,238, larger by 12.5 per cent than the preceding year's comparable figure of 158,388, according to an advance release of figures that will be contained in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics report "Survey of Higher Education - Part I: Fall Enrolment in Universities and Colleges", for 1963-64 and 1964-65.

Full-time graduate enrolment increased about twice as much (23.9 per cent), from 1963-64 to 1964-65, as undergraduate enrolment (11.7 per cent). The increase in the enrolment of women (18.4 per cent) was higher than that for men (10.2 per cent).

PROVINCIAL FIGURES

By province, enrolment increases from 1963-64 to 1964-65 ranged from a low of 4.2 per cent for Manitoba (owing to the raising by the University of Manitoba of its minimum entrance requirement from junior to senior matriculation for 1964-65) to 24.2 per cent for Saskatchewan. The large Saskatchewan increase was mainly accounted for by the absorption of all teacher-training in the province by the University of Saskatchewan in 1964-65.

By including full-time enrolment at all affiliated institutions in 1964-65, the Université de Montréal was largest with 25,534 university-grade students, followed by the University of Toronto (16,387), the University of British Columbia (15,217), Université Laval (14,873), the University of Alberta (12,664), and McGill University (10,808).

AID FOR AIRSTRIPS

The Federal Government will contribute \$40,000 toward the construction of two airstrips on northern Baffin Island, scene of one of Canada's richest iron-ore discoveries. The job will be done by Baffinland Iron Mines Limited, which is developing a high-grade deposit at Mary River.

One airstrip is being constructed at Mary River and the other 65 miles away at Milne Inlet, whence the company hopes to ship the ore by sea. Both will be 5,500 feet long by 150 feet wide - large enough for DC-4s and similar aircraft.

BOOST FOR ARCTIC ECONOMY

The Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources is helping to build the strips in line with its policy of encouraging northern mining development. Exploitation of the Baffin Island discovery will boost the economy of the Eastern Arctic and, in fact, all Canada.

Baffinland Iron Mines has spent about \$1 million on exploration and development of its Mary River property. So far it has outlined 135,000,000 tons of ore grading 69 percent iron - good enough for direct shipping. The company hopes to start production by 1970. This year it will begin feasibility studies covering markets, transportation, hydro-electric power and townsite planning.