

would be willing to make the opportunity for fire fighting service in the United Kingdom known among the Canadian fire services. //

4. At a meeting between the Home Secretary and the High Commissioner for Canada which took place on the 18th February, the Home Secretary expressed the hope that, if the Canadian Government were unable to sponsor the scheme, it would still be possible to make some other arrangements to enable Canadian firemen to come over. Not only was there pressing need for additional further personnel, but he felt, and the High Commissioner agreed, that such an arrangement would provide an opportunity for Canadian civilians to share with the civilians in the United Kingdom in the battle for Britain and would at the same time provide useful experience of war-time fire fighting for Canadian firemen. (7)

5. At this meeting the High Commissioner suggested that the best course would be to revert to the original proposal, made by the Firemen's Association of Winnipeg, that volunteers should be recruited from their own and similar municipal organisations and, acting on this suggestion, it has been agreed that the approach to the Canadian Municipalities should be made through the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Canada; that he should endeavour to secure the concurrence and, it is hoped, the assistance of the Federal authorities, with a view to the volunteers being recruited direct from the various fire brigades or through the Firemen's Associations. It was also agreed that arrangements should be made, if possible, to secure the secondment of one or more Canadian officer firemen to advise the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Canada on these measures.

6. The financial arrangements have also been discussed, and it is agreed that the approach to the Canadian Municipal authorities should be made on the following general basis:-

(i) H.M. Government to be responsible for:-

- (a) The pay of the volunteers (in sterling) at the normal rate for auxiliary firemen in the United Kingdom.
- (b) The cost of maintaining and equipping the contingent while in the United Kingdom, including accommodation according to normal Auxiliary Fire Service standards or hostel or camp accommodation, as may be arranged according to the duties the contingent will perform.
- (c) Cost of transportation in the United Kingdom.

(ii) The Canadian authorities to be responsible for:-

- (a) Any balance of pay or allowances which it may be desired to grant to members of the contingent over and above their Auxiliary Fire Service pay, etc., provided by H.M. Government.
- (b) Any pensions which may become payable, and
- (c) The cost of transportation to and from the United Kingdom.