



Commissioner C. E. Rivett-Carnac

ON March 23 the successor to Commr. L. H. Nicholson, MBE, LL.D., whose resignation was announced one week earlier, was appointed. Charles Edward Rivett-Carnac, who rose from the ranks and has been Deputy Commissioner since 1956, became the tenth Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Those associated with the Force will derive much satisfaction and pleasure in the knowledge that so capable an officer has been selected to undertake the heavy responsibility as head of the RCMP. The new Commissioner is a highly respected officer, well-known throughout the service as an able administrator, with a keen active mind, pleasant disposition and a complete understanding of the demanding role expected of him and the men in his command.

Born in Eastbourne, Sussex, England, on Aug. 31, 1901, the new Commissioner has been likened by one newspaper to the "young men from the United Kingdom who came to Canada eager for adventure". The Rivett-Carnac family had for generations been connected with either the church or the services and the son who came to Canada at the age of 22 to join the RCMP had already had his own lively share of adventure. Beginning with World War I, in which he served with an ambulance unit at the age

of 16, he went next to India where his father was a deputy inspector-general of police. There he ran elephant camps in the foothills of the Himalayas, managed a lime manufacturing industry in Bisra and became, finally, private secretary to one of the partners of the enterprise with which he was employed. Leaving India he joined the RCMP on July 25, 1923 as Reg. No. 9935, and it was not long before he was serving at a northern detachment. For one, who so far had favored the life of a rugged individualist, the posting was made to order.

Promotion came rapidly for the young Englishman—on Feb. 1, 1931, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and one month later was commissioned an Inspector. With each step up the ladder there followed new responsibilities and different fields of endeavor. He has commanded at the sub-division, C.I.B. and division level. For a number of years Inspector Rivett-Carnac was editor of the *RCMP Quarterly* and he was Acting Director of Criminal Investigation and officer in charge of the Special Branch during the investigation into Soviet espionage in Ottawa in 1945 and 1946. He was then a Superintendent, a rank he reached on Sept. 1, 1942. In November 1947 he was promoted to Assistant Commissioner and in the period immediately preceding his appointment as Deputy Commissioner he was Officer Commanding "E" Division (British Columbia), taking over there shortly after the Mounted Police absorbed the B.C. Provincial Police.

Commissioner Rivett-Carnac has many recreational pursuits and is keenly interested in golf. Like his predecessor in office, he is married and has two daughters.