

## The Royal Canadian Mounted Police Cruiser "Interceptor"

FOR SOME time past it has been evident that speedier boats were badly needed in the Preventive Service work now carried out by this Force. The efforts of the Technical Advisor have been directed to obtaining a seaworthy vessel of moderate size, shallow draft, capable of attaining a good speed and using fuel oil vice gasoline. It is hoped that the *Interceptor* will fulfil all these requirements.

The new cruiser *Interceptor* was built by the Manseau Shipyards Limited, was designed by Lambert & German, naval architects of Montreal, who collaborated with Mr. C. Stephen, the Technical Advisor, Marine Section of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The vessel has been constructed of an aluminum alloy called "Birmabright", so as to obtain strength combined with light weight. This metal has been used successfully in England and has proved itself resistant to corrosion in sea water.

The cruiser is 65 feet long, 12 feet six inches in beam, eight feet in depth and has a draft of three feet six inches. The pilot house is located on deck and from this position the vessel is controlled. There is accommodation for eight men, including heating, electric light and all usual accessories. The aluminum alloy is used almost exclusively for the hull, castings, fittings, tanks, etc. The vessel is provided with a powerful searchlight, wireless apparatus and in addition a suitable gun is mounted on top of the pilot house. Propelling machinery is twin screw, and consists of two "Gleniffer" eight cylinder full Diesel marine type engines of 320 horsepower. Two Oertz patent streamline rudders are located behind the propellers.

The lines of the vessel were very carefully designed by the naval architects and experiments were made in the testing tank at the National Research Bureau in Ottawa.

This ship was launched at Sorel on 13th May at the Manseau Shipyards. The christening ceremony was performed by Mrs. Hugh Guthrie, wife of the Minister of Justice, who is also the Minister in Control of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Mrs. Guthrie broke the usual bottle of champagne over the bow of the vessel and named her *Interceptor*. Brief addresses were delivered by Honourable Hugh Guthrie, Major General MacBrien, Mr. Walter Lambert and Mr. Joseph Simard, President of the Manseau Shipyards.

A party of officers from Headquarters went to Montreal on 20th May and with the officers of "C" Division were taken for a cruise on the St. Lawrence River in the *Interceptor*.

The boat was examined critically and with keen interest. The equipment is the most up-to-date obtainable and every inch of space has been used with great ingenuity. The little ship performed most satisfactorily and one and all enjoyed the outing immensely. Some of the "horsemen" were rather dubious about facing an Atlantic storm in such a small vessel.