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Quebec Organized In Many Services Of Home Guarding

(By JACK TRACY)
 (Canadian Press Staff Writer)
 QUEBEC, Sept. 26.—(CP)—While the battle of Britain rages thousands of volunteer workers under Quebec province's Civilian Protection Committee are guarding homes and industries behind Canada's oldest ramparts.

Ontario also has established a provincial civilian protection committee which will extend its activities to local committees throughout the province. Similar Air Raid Precautions organizations are in operation in the Maritime provinces. The movement is aided by the Dominion authorities.

Although the war is 2,000 miles away from the farmsteads and great industries of Quebec, more than 4,000 forest rangers are watching the skies for enemy airplanes. Auxiliary fire fighters are ready to deal with bomb-lighted fires. An auxiliary mobile police force is all set to aid police in combatting sabotage, disturbances and fifth column activity.

The sea too is watched. Although lighthouse keepers along the shores of the St. Lawrence River are not directly under the C. P. C. their duty of reporting shipping movements is a factor in civilian protection.

No detail is left out of the C. P. C.'s plans. They deal with "arrangements for increased fatalities," hostile parachute attacks, decontamination and the reporting of unexpected projectiles.

Highway engineers and agricultural field workers are carrying the story of civilian preparedness into the humblest habitant home.

Provincial Direction

Local C. P. C. units stretch in an almost unbroken line along both shores of the St. Lawrence from Montreal to Gaspé and Comeau Bay. The nerve centre of the whole organization is the provincial control room in Quebec. Every unit in the province is expected to be standing by for immediate action within eight or 10 minutes after a warning is received.

The control centre would receive warnings of approaching hostile aircraft or of imminent enemy action from points in the Maritimes, from Marconi stations at sea. Arrangements are underway along the coast or from ships at facilitate flashing the warning to military, naval and police headquarters.

Known originally as the "air raid precautions committee," the C. P. C. took its present name after it received corporate status under the laws of Quebec. Its central authority is Gordon Ross of Quebec, provincial officer. Around him is grouped an advisory committee consisting of representatives of the army, navy, police force, government, first aid societies and public utilities.

Mr. Ross is also president of the committee which has a board of directors consisting of representatives of church, government and mayors of the cities in the province.

Instruction books issued to workers blue-print the six-pronged effort of the C. P. C. The work is divided into categories: medical services, warden, auxiliary, fire fighters, vital services, public relations, and mobile column. Medical services are to take care of public health, first aid, and the

prevention of epidemics resulting from enemy action. Wardens serve as "auxiliaries to the police; persons of courage and with personality, to advise and help their neighbors and generally to serve as a link between not only those of fighting fires but prevention.

Vital services will protect and repair public service units such as important buildings, gas, power, communications, transportation and sewage facilities. Public relations will carry instructions and information to the public through the press, radio and posted notices.

An Armed Group

The mobile column is designed also to be used against hostile parachute attacks or other landing parties. One of the most formidable groups in the whole set-up, its personnel must be British citizens. They will operate in sections of about 16 men each, carried in three cars. Each man is to be armed, cars must carry emergency supplies and military discipline will prevail while on service. Each member of the force is vested with the powers of a special constable.

Officers say the organization of this civilian army has already had successful results. One of the most important has been the development among the population of unanimity of feeling towards civilian protection.

During registration of aliens in the United States C. P. C. units in border counties were ready to prevent an influx of evading aliens into Canada.

Local C. P. C. organizations have been set up in the areas in and around Montreal, Quebec, the Eastern Townships, Three Rivers, Brome County, the North Shore, Gaspé and Rimouski. In the Sherbrooke district 3,225 persons were enrolled in the movement in five days. It is expected the organization will eventually cover the whole province.

U. S. Legion Votes To Aid Great Britain

BOSTON, Sept. 25.—(AP)—The American Legion voted overwhelmingly today in favor of giving "all practicable aid to Great Britain" in conjunction with a defence program designed to make the United States "strong enough to meet and turn back any possible invasion before it arrives."

Warren Atherton of California, Chairman of the 22nd convention's committee on national defence, termed the pro-British resolution "a new step in the direction of closer support" for Britain. The Legion advocated strict neutrality at its convention last year.

The 1939 vote, representing more than 1,000,000 former service men, urged creation of a permanent system of universal military training and increases in the personnel of the army, navy, air corps and coast guard marine and the national guard.

The veterans also urged acquisition of additional bases for naval expansion, and endorsed the principles of exchanging obsolete equipment for needed air and naval bases.

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BRITAIN A FRESH FIGHTER
 LONDON, Sept. 23.—(CP)—John Maynard Keynes, economist, declared in a broadcast tonight that Great Britain has "the freshness of a fighter in the first round of combat," whereas "Germany has

already suffered the narrow tension and muscular exhaustion of five years of prodigious effort."

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REPORTED MISSING

Returning to Canada on the ship sunk by a German torpedo, Mrs. Harry Glover, formerly Phyllis Smith of Guelph, is reported missing, according to a cable received by her brother-in-law, Dr. James F. Hazelwood, Gravenhurst.

LONDON BUSY DESPITE RAIDS

LONDON, Sept. 17.—There is plenty of activity in London's shops, despite the air raids.

The rush of business goes to shops which sell these things:

Camp stoves to make hot tea and heat shelters. They are becoming hard to find.

Shelter pads for protection in damp underground bombproofs. They run from fancy air mattresses to a stout cloth affair with pockets to hold pillows.

Camp cots and camp chairs—The demand has been so brisk some stores are only taking orders for future delivery.

Window glass substitutes of translucent treated cotton which can be tacked-in to replace panes broken or removed as a precaution.

Wool shops, too, are active despite rationed supplies. Women everywhere are knitting for shelter wear and for soldiers, sailors and airmen.

Shoe shops are experiencing an early demand for fur-lined winter boots.

Tin hats, gas mask cases and blackout materials are wartime staples. The only helmets available are reconitioned ones, and they are snapped up.

Dress and fur shops had a slight boom the last few weeks in anticipation of sales taxes. But the seriousness of night bombings cramped night life, shut up many theatres and ended the boom in luxury clothes.

Second hand furniture stores are during a rushing business. The influx of refugees from the continent more than offset the outflow of Londoners seeking a quieter environment.

Food markets always look rushed. There is a great deal of shopping for unrationed foods.

Restaurants have been doing well because of the large number of people caught away from home at meal times. But they are hampered by interrupted movements of supplies and have had to simplify their menus.

By Westover

CHILDREN MOVED FROM CITY

LONDON, Sept. 23.—(CP Cable)—Two thousand school children

left London for safety areas in England today on the heels of 2,600 Sunday as the London county council speeded up its scheme to get them out of reach of the German sky raiders. Officials estimated that 200,000 are still in the capital.

TILLIE THE TOILER — MADDENING THOUGHT!

A CHALLENGE TO CANADIANS



Help for the Helpless!

A BABY GIRL tosses on a hospital cot with painful injuries from bomb splinters. The Red Cross provides surgical supplies, dressings, X-Ray equipment for her care.

A BRITISH MAN-OF-WAR, her course suddenly altered from tropic seas, reaches a Canadian port in mid-winter, her crew suffering from exposure. The Red Cross supplies warm clothing.

A MOTHER WITH THREE CHILDREN loses home and belongings in an air raid. The Red Cross sends blankets and warm clothing.

A CANADIAN SOLDIER is discharged from hospital to rejoin his unit in Britain's line of defense. He receives a warm sweater and socks from the Red Cross.

A CANADIAN MOTHER receives word that her son in the Air Force is missing. The Red Cross locates him in a prison camp, advises the mother, sends parcels of food, clothing, magazines and tobacco to the son.

In a thousand ways the Canadian Red Cross is helping the sick, the wounded, the suffering. You can share in this great work. Support the Red Cross with all your heart.

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