

# MOUNTED POLICE NOW NUMBER 1,800

## Many Fresh Features in the New Federal Organization

Ottawa, Dec. 4.—The amalgamation of the Royal North-West Mounted Police and the Dominion Police Force, under the name of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, which was authorized by an Act passed at the last session of Parliament, will be completed within a week or ten days by a proclamation by the Governor-General in-Council. With the passage of the order-in-Council executive control of the police force will be centralized at Ottawa. The Royal North-West Mounted Police have been gradually growing in strength. Enlistments for overseas military service reduced the numbers of the force, which, in May last, stood at about 500. The strength has now risen again to 1,800. This Autumn a new post was opened at Barnard Harbor, on Coronation Gulf, in a tract of territory rich in copper and oil resources. The Government is said to have been urged to extend the jurisdiction of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police into Eastern Canada. There is a suggestion that it may assign a portion of the force to Northern Ontario. In Western Canada the Mounted Police have long been used as preventive officers to suppress smuggling in violation of the Customs Tariff Act. They may now, it is said, be appointed preventive officers under the provisions of the Inland Revenue Act, to put a stop to the operations of illicit liquor stills, which are stated to have become very numerous in the Dominion.

Officials at the head of the North-West Mounted Police have been considering the feasibility of utilizing aircraft as an aid in patrolling the great Northern Timberlands of the Dominion. It has been suggested that at the outset a lighter-than-air machine should be employed, that routes should be mapped out and stations be established, and that then airplanes might be brought into the service.