

# MAGNIFICENT EFFORT MADE DURING WAR'S FIRST YEAR

HAMILTON SPECTATOR

AUG 3 1940

Anniversary Sees Eleven  
Units Successfully  
Mobilized Here

## NAVAL, AIR FORCES

Auxiliary Defence Corps  
1,000 Strong — Public  
Appeals Supported

Hamilton can look back with pride on its contribution to the common cause during the first year of the Empire's struggle—a year in which thousands of this city's sons have gone forth to do battle, thousands more have joined the militia for part-time training, and in which Hamilton's citizens have given freely of their money and their services to many war-time causes.

### Highlights of Year

Highlights of the year's effort fall into three main categories: Direct military effort, home defence and war services. This is what Hamilton has accomplished in each of these groups.

First, direct military effort: Eleven units have been mobilized for active service—the 40th and 11th Field Batteries, R.C.A., 18th Field Company, R.C.E., No. 3 Company, Corps Signals, Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 1st Divisional Petrol Company and 2nd Divisional Supply Column, R.C.A.S.C., No. 5 Field Ambulance, R.C.A.M.C., 2nd B Company, Veterans' Home Guard and the 119th Bomber-Reconnaissance Squadron, R.C.A.F. These, in addition to men recruited for the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve and the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan and in addition also to reinforcements enlisted here for the Canadian Active Service Force bring Hamilton's total contribution of man power to nearly 4,500 men all told.

Besides these men—all of whom are in the Canadian Active Service Force or in active naval and air units—the city is at present maintaining six non-permanent militia units: "B" Squadron of the 2-10 Dragoons, 11th Field Battery,

R.C.A. 1st Field Squadron, R.C.E., No. 3 Company, "A" Corps Signals, 2nd Battalion, R.H.L.I. and the Ammunition Company, R.C.A.S.C. These total 1,300 approximately, thus bringing Hamilton's complete contribution to the armed forces to date to nearly 6,000 men—an impressive figure.

Secondly, in the matter of home defence, Hamilton led the entire Dominion of Canada in the agitation which was being made at the beginning of the summer to persuade the government to take more stringent measures against the activities of fifth columnists and saboteurs.

### Defence Corps

The result of this was the Hamilton Auxiliary Defence Corps, constituted under the authority of Mayor William Morrison, K.C. The corps now boasts a 1,000-man defence force under command of Lieut.-Col. R. F. Inch, M.C., and an armoured car, which is the first of three to be built for the corps. A sum of \$46,000 has been raised to support the corps for the first year of its operation.

Thirdly, war services: Immediately after war broke out, the Hamilton Auxiliary War Services committee, with Orville Walsh, K.C., as chairman; Thomas Peacock, honorary administrator, and Miss Agnes Hay, assistant honorary administrator, was formed by authority of the Dominion government. This committee co-ordinates all war service activities in the city and the surrounding district.

### Responds Nobly

The city has nobly responded to all appeals for funds, especially for the nation-wide appeals launched by the Y.M.C.A., the Red Cross, Canadian Legion War Services, the I.O.D.E. and the Salvation Army. In practically every instance, Hamilton's quota was easily reached and sometimes surpassed.

With an army of 1,000 voluntary workers, the Red Cross has been doing magnificent work under the chairmanship of Norman Evans. In the first year of war, the Hamilton branch made something like 6,000 pairs of pyjamas, 25,000 pairs of socks, 400,000 surgical dressings, 5,000 pairs of mittens and 3,000 hospital bed gowns, to say nothing of pneumonia jackets, dressing gowns and sweaters.

Other organizations and many church groups have been doing equally excellent work, although not on the same scale as this, and the total achievement has been something quite remarkable.

079-010-020