

Questions

region, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. At least two will be held in the province of Ontario; and two will be held in the province of Quebec, one of which will be in French.

In each instance the staff of a large hospital and, as contrast, of a small hospital, with the assistance of officers of the civil defence health planning group of the Department of National Health and Welfare, prepare a complete plan for the handling of mass casualties. Then the hospital administrators and chiefs of medical services and of nursing services from each of about 15 other hospitals in each area attend a two-day institute conducted by the health planning group of the department. During the institute they receive instruction in the preparation of hospital plans, examine the plans of the host hospital, and discuss these plans on the actual hospital premises. On the completion of the institute personnel from the attending hospitals undertake to carry out disaster plans in their own institutions. In this way about 100 hospitals across Canada, including D.V.A. hospitals, will be able to develop their own plans and to assist neighbouring hospitals in the preparation of further plans.

Another phase of planning which has recently been developed by the civil defence health planning group of the Department of National Health and Welfare is a regulation of casualty flow. By this is meant the general management of casualties at all levels of service, particularly in respect of the flow of casualties through rescue, first aid and medical treatment centres, and includes principles of evacuation and the operational control of health services.

CIVIL DEFENCE TRAINING, MEDICAL PERSONNEL

Mr. MacDougall:

What special civil defence training, if any, is being given to Canadian physicians and nurses?

Mr. Martin:

Arrangements in effect between the Department of National Health and Welfare and the Department of National Defence whereby candidates attend the A.B.C. warfare defence course held three times a year at Camp Borden have enabled the civil defence health services of the Department of National Health and Welfare to collaborate with provincial civil defence health services authorities in the indoctrination so far of 274 Canadian physicians.

In addition officers of the federal civil defence health services have conducted courses across Canada for nursing instructors on the subject of how to teach the nursing aspects of A.B.C. warfare. At the conclusion of these courses the 1,300 nursing instructors

[Mr. Martin.]

so trained have imparted their knowledge, by means of a series of 12-hour courses, to over 28,000 active, retired, and married nurses across the country.

Civil defence nursing is now part of the basic curricula for student nurses in five provinces.

Home nursing training conducted by the Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Association has now been extended to rural areas and includes at least four hours of intensive civil defence instruction. Arrangements have been made also under which selected students in home nursing are given 44 hours of hospital experience.

Following individual training, team training in casualty services and in particular in the operation of first aid stations is carried out in several areas in Canada. This team training is done through the conduct of first aid station demonstrations in which, following examples staged in the first instance under the supervision of federal civil defence health services authorities, local authorities organize full complements of physicians, nurses, nurses' aides, auxiliary workers and stretcher bearers and actually implement a program of casualty care in the first aid station as it would be carried out under disaster conditions. Usually, as many as 250 people are required for each such demonstration. Actual medical supplies are used and authentic atmosphere is created through the use of the accurate medical and cosmetrical simulation of from 50 to 100 casualties. This procedure, in addition to being a training factor, serves to give considerable stimulation to local civil defence organization.

SALE OF WHEAT TO RUSSIA

Mr. Thatcher:

Has the Canadian wheat board, or any other government agency, taken any specific steps since January 1 to sell wheat to Russia?

Mr. Dickey: Approximately three months ago, two representatives of the U.S.S.R. called on officials of the Department of Trade and Commerce and inquired into the availability and prices of Canadian wheat for shipment to the U.S.S.R. The necessary information was provided to them but, to date, there have been no further developments.

P.F.R.A. OFFICIALS' EXPENSES

Mr. Diefenbaker:

1. Did any of the officials or employees connected with the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act administration, whose names appear in sessional paper No. 10B tabled on June 1, 1954, receive any expenses additional to those set out in the return which were charged directly to the Department of Agriculture?

2. If so, who are such persons and what was the respective amount of such expenses?