

expensive. A single trip from Sioux Lookout to Port Severn and return for the evacuation of one patient costs more than \$1,000. In another instance it cost about \$1,200 to remove one mental patient with attendants from Fort Norman to a hospital in Alberta.

VI. *Proposed Program*

34. Before outlining the department's proposals for extending and improving the health service for Indians and Eskimos it should be pointed out that this matter is still under active discussion by officers of the department. Also much that will be said regarding future plans was originated in the Department of Mines and Resources when the medical service was part of the Indian Affairs Branch.

35. The department's proposals relate to every phase of health activity. The number of personnel must be enlarged and salary adjustments are essential. Facilities such as hospitals, nursing stations, travelling clinic equipment, air transport, etc., must all be increased or modernized.

36. Turning first to the question of staff, it may be pointed out that salaries must be commensurate with the responsibilities and professional attainments and administrative ability required. In view of the increasing complexity of the service it is considered necessary to provide for two assistant directors at headquarters, one responsible for administration and the other for professional services. In order to decentralize some of the increasing burden of detailed work, it is proposed to appoint a regional superintendent for each of the following regions: (1) Eastern Arctic; (2) Western Arctic, North West Territories and Yukon; (3) British Columbia; (4) Alberta; (5) Saskatchewan; (6) Manitoba and north west Ontario; (7) Central and south Ontario and west Quebec; (8) East Quebec and the Maritimes. Two of these positions have already been established, one for British Columbia, and one for Alberta. The latter position is now occupied by Col. Stone, referred to earlier as the Superintendent of Medical Services in 1927.

37. In addition to the two new medical positions referred to above, 24 other new positions have been authorized. These are to provide for additional hospital staff and field officers. More are contemplated.

38. There is a proposal under discussion to re-organize the medical and nursing staff on a service basis, rather than on the basis of appointment to specific positions. This is advocated in order that there may be free interchange of staff between posts, and to facilitate promotion within the Service. An important objective in recommending this change is to facilitate the more frequent relief of medical officers and nurses serving in northern outposts. It is believed that this arrangement will make the Service a more attractive career for competent doctors and nurses.

39. Provision of more field nurses with public health training is contemplated. This is in keeping with the proposal to extend the number of nursing stations. In addition it is proposed that the department employ qualified nurses to be stationed in the larger residential schools wherever the Service is responsible for the health of the children and adequate health services are not otherwise provided.

40. The problem of providing adequate hospitalization is extremely difficult as will be gathered from the foregoing notes. There are approximately 1,000 deaths from tuberculosis per year. It is generally agreed that there should be provided three beds for every tuberculosis death per year. This would mean the provision of 3,000 sanatorium beds.