

*Supply—National Defence*

provincial or municipal civil defence assignments, or for industry. These numbers will steadily increase during the coming months as we develop additional specialist courses and as the provincial governments establish their own training schools, there now being in addition to our own school in connection with civil defence another actually in being and one about to start. A technical school for instructors in civil defence has been established and is now beginning its courses at Connaught Ranges, near Ottawa. At this school alone it is hoped to train 400 instructors during the coming months. In addition to providing these various training facilities, the federal government will later supply a number of trained instructors for civil defence training schools set up by the provinces.

I should like to indicate in brief outline some of the other steps the government has taken to prepare plans for every major area of need in case of enemy attack on our population. Action is being taken in such fields as the following: liaison with the armed forces; advance warning; protection against sabotage; information; communications; transportation; health services; welfare services; industrial plant protection; food; and fire-fighting services. Of course I will not have time to comment on all these, but I do want to say a word about one or two of them.

The federal civil defence organization maintains close liaison with the chiefs of staff, as it necessarily must. On the basis of their assessment of the general situation, including the degree of risk, the relative vulnerability of Canadian communities as possible targets and the possible and probable scale of enemy attack, plans have been made and organization developed to minimize the effects of any such attack on the civilian population. Arrangements have also been made with the Department of National Defence for the closest possible liaison, at provincial and local levels, with the armed forces. Selected officers of the armed forces are being detailed to work in this liaison and advisory capacity. In addition there are plans covering the part the armed forces will play in support of civil defence organizations.

If an enemy attack should be directed against Canadian territory it is important to have an effective way of immediately warning both the armed forces and the civil defence authorities. The Minister of National Defence recently announced plans to organize a ground observer corps of 150,000 civilian volunteers to be the eyes and ears of Canada's warning system, supplementing radar and other service devices and observers. Reports from these ground observers and from other

sources will come into the air defence communication centres, where civil defence liaison will be maintained on a 24-hour basis. In that way information can be immediately transmitted to local civil defence communication systems and the appropriate civil defence organizations put on the alert. It will be a federal responsibility to provide the information to the local communication network. From that point local authorities will carry on their work.

The federal government has also undertaken the preparation and publication of certain basic pamphlets, which obviously are important in a matter of this kind. The first of these, "Organization for civil defence" was produced last November. It has been widely distributed and well received by civil defence authorities in Canada and other countries. Manuals on individual basic training subjects and a basic training plan have also been widely distributed, and training memoranda and bulletins are regularly sent out. Useful publications and films produced in the United Kingdom and the United States are also being used or adapted for use in Canada. A second publication entitled "Technical guidance on the provision of air raid shelters" is now available for technical use. A non-technical pamphlet, "How to strengthen domestic basements", will soon be released. Other federal publications now being printed or under preparation include "Structural effects of the atomic bomb"; "How to survive"; "Zoning and dispersal"; "Industrial protection"; "Basic and full first aid", and manuals on various organizational aspects of civil defence covering health services, welfare services and so on.

It is of fundamental importance for civil defence to maintain communications. To prepare appropriate plans to ensure this a civil defence communications section has been established in the Department of Transport, and a civil defence telecommunications committee, comprising all the leading national telegraph, telephone and radio agencies and associations has also been formed and is now at work. Arrangements have been made by this committee to study the communications problem under four headings: line services, point to point radio, radio broadcasting systems, and air raid communications systems.

The federal civil defence health planning group, which has been at work for some months, is responsible for developing overall plans for health services and medical care that will serve as a general pattern for provincial and municipal civil defence services. The national professional health associations and voluntary organizations are co-operating fully. This group, like other federal committees, includes a number of