

*Medicare*

become so bad that 45 per cent of all interns are from outside the country, and mostly from Asia or Africa.

The United States is far better off than we are, in medical manpower. Yet they have set up an examining board in London where doctors can take their examinations. Those doctors who wish to leave Great Britain after having passed the board's examination can go to the United States, and enter into practice there.

What are we doing about this situation? What is the government attempting to do? The Canadian Medical Association requires a doctor to fly here at his own expense, sit for his examination in Canada, and then go back. If the doctor qualifies he can come back again and enter practice. What in the world is wrong? I might ask in the light of this, why when we are so short of medical personnel. Surely we too can see that doctors who have been trained in Great Britain and who are thinking of leaving Great Britain should be allowed to try their examinations in London. I suggest to the minister that one of the things that must be done, to get doctors if this bill is to work, is to provide funds to the Canadian Medical Council so it can set up a board in London similar to that of the United States.

This brings up the next point. I refer to the building of medical schools, paramedical services, science research centres and so on. We are off target here. The Hall Commission report said in 1964 that we have to add a minimum of 476 students a year to our medical schools, but I wonder if the minister is aware of the number of new medical students who entered medical schools this year in Ontario? Is the minister aware of what is required? Is the minister aware that only 75 additional students are registered in the medical schools in Ontario? There are just 75 more students this year despite the fact that the Hall Commission report says that there must be an additional minimum each year of 476 students for Canada. This report, as I say, was public knowledge in 1964. Yet in the waning days of 1966 we find that in Ontario we have only 75 additional students, which, applied to the rest in Canada, would give us only half the required number. In addition, only one new medical school will be opened, at Sherbrooke, which will admit 25 students.

The Hall Commission report stated that by 1970 we must have 7,100 additional doctors. They must be added to the profession. We are

[Mr. Rynard.]

not adding these numbers, nor have we any hope of so doing in the way we are conducting our affairs. Doctors, sir, are overworked almost to the breaking point. On a flight to Toronto I met a doctor. He is younger than I am, having graduated about 1935. As he is a friend of mine I said to him: "John, who is looking after your practice?" He had a big practice. He said to me: "I am quitting practice. I cannot take it anymore. People call me and I cannot refuse them, and physically I am unable to go, and if I stayed in practice I would probably break down." He said to me that he had come down to Ottawa to see about a government job.

This sort of thing is going on in many towns of Canada. Doctors are pulling out and quitting. I cite such things because doctors often say: "We cannot refuse people. We do not want the responsibility on our shoulders of somebody who ought to get immediate care dying, but we have to have some rest some time".

The people today are not receiving the best of medical care. Let us face that fact. That is not because there is not sufficient money but because we do not have the doctors to do the work. It is as simple as that. Canada faces a serious situation with respect to medical manpower.

You can build all the medical schools you like but unless you have scientifically trained teachers to teach the students you will not produce doctors. It will be of little avail to have students without teachers. How many teachers do we need? It is admitted that in the next five years we shall need 1,500 teacher scientists. We do not have that number in Canada. What is to happen? The Canadian Medical Association Journal, as quoted on page 7553 of *Hansard*, has this to say:

If the teachers for the expansion of existing schools and the staffing of new medical schools are recruited from within Canada, a sort of academic musical chairs will occur in which the staffs of existing schools will be rapidly diluted, and, if the bidding is brisk, an unfortunate concentration of the best talent in a few centres may develop.

This sort of thing has been going on for quite a time. It has reached the point where four medical schools in Canada may lose their accreditation. This matter was dealt with by the Canadian Medical Association Journal in these terms, also as quoted on page 7553 of *Hansard*:

It has been whispered about for a long time. Now it is in the open: one-third of Canada's medical schools, during the last ten years, have been warned that if they don't improve they may