

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OR AGENCIES

Canadian Government Departments have only recently become involved in pre-retirement preparation programmes. Three years ago probably no Department was doing anything in this field. Now several have started programmes and the following brief notes summarize the situation.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: Started courses in 1971/72 with one course from January to March. This was followed by another during the same months in 1972; as a result of the good response from employees they will have another in 1973 and also a course in French for the Capitol region. In addition, the Department is organizing courses in Vancouver and in Edmonton and hope to do the same for Montreal and Halifax for their employees in those areas. The courses last for ten weeks with two hours in the morning, either 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon on Thursdays or Wednesdays. These are for employees only, no wives being invited. The only personal counselling is on an ad hoc basis, but the personnel division at Headquarters sends out a warning letter one year in advance of the 65th birthday, and this is followed by another six months later.

DEFENCE RESEARCH BOARD: Started looking into establishing pre-retirement training courses but plans dropped when interested officer retired.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR: No current plans for pre-retirement training. Carried out survey of all employees retiring in next ten years and had insufficient response to warrant action; 75 out of 150 replied and of those replying only half were interested - strangely, the survey disclosed that those showing interest were closer to 55 than to 65 years of age. No personal counselling programme in effect.

DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY & SERVICES: Have produced a kit which contains basic "Harvest Year's Guide to Pre-retirement Training"