

responsibility between the various levels of government. In other words, this was the period of paper planning that must precede the development of a sound practical programme.

Stage Two -- 1951 - 1952:

The years 1951 and 1952 marked the beginning of the more active phase of civil defence preparation -- Stage Two -- the development of concrete organization, recruiting and training at the various levels. During this period training facilities were improved; recruiting of volunteer workers was stepped up; and the public information programme was greatly intensified. In short, civil defence became a going concern.

Stage Three -- 1953 ---:

The intensive work undertaken in 1951 and 1952 made it possible to move into the operational stage during the present year. Now that it has entered its operational phase, Canada's civil defence programme is coming more into public view and requires public support on a much wider scale.

To help encourage this public interest, the convoy, "On Guard, Canada", is presently touring the country and is arousing interest and attention wherever it goes. An here I might say that this project is an outstanding example of co-operative action.

The original display was a loan from the United States Government, adapted to meet Canadian conditions. Trucks and tractor trailers were provided free of charge or at nominal rentals. Gasoline, tires and other items of necessary equipment were donated by various industrial concerns. The Canadian Automotive Transportation Association provided top-flight drivers to move this great motorcade across the country. Everywhere the show has gone, interested business and industrial organizations have donated good-will advertising to encourage public interest. Finally, in every city it has visited, the local civil defence organization has taken over responsibility for manning the show.

To test the effectiveness of our civil defence organizations, a number of operational exercises have already been carried out including one at Niagara Falls last June which demonstrated the tremendous value of mutual aid between the United States and Canada. Last June, operational exercises were carried a stage further when a very ambitious joint interprovincial-interstate exercise was held involving Alaska, British Columbia, Alberta, Washington, Oregon and California.

As we have gradually advanced from the planning and organizational stage, through the recruiting and training stages, and finally into the present operational stage, the record, I think, has been one of responsible progress at a steady and unspectacular pace. We have tried to avoid the extremes of apathy on the one hand and hysteria on the other. We have attempted to maintain a perspective by focusing our attention on a realistic recognition of the dangers that confront us today.