

cally the only medical men in this trackless wilderness are employees of the government who are stationed at a few strategic points on the main travel routes. In the North West Territories and Eastern Arctic there are nine doctors. Two are employed by mining companies, and seven by the department to serve a native population of approximately 11,000. There is a mission hospital at all the places where departmental doctors are located.

21. An additional difficulty is that the Indian of the unsettled area is more prone to resist guidance and treatment by a white doctor.

V. Present Arrangements

A. STAFF

22. At present the Indian Health Service is administered from a headquarters in the Department of National Health and Welfare in Ottawa. The chief executive officers are a Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. They are assisted by one other medical officer and a clerical staff of seven.

23. In addition to the above there are 24 full-time doctors, in the field, seven of whom are resident in the North West Territories and Eastern Arctic. The part-time services of approximately 700 doctors are utilized to give medical attention to the Indians in the localities where the doctors carry on their practice. 24 field nurses are employed to care for the various bands scattered from Quebec to the Yukon. In addition there is a large number of part-time field matrons and field dispensers. These are often doctors' wives, missionaries, school teachers, R.C.M.P. officers, Hudson Bay factors and other traders many of whom have had nursing or first-aid training and who are supplied with first-aid medicine kits. There is a dispenser in every band, many of whom act without payment. In this connection it should be recorded that officers of the R.C.M.P. have rendered very valuable assistance, not only in dispensing drugs but in transporting and caring for the sick. Drugs and medicines are sent to every band of Indians and every Eskimo centre. The total number of full-time staff in the Service is: 29 doctors; 91 nurses; 252 others. This does not include field dispensers and field matrons unless they are on full-time.

24. In the Arctic many of the dispensers have two-way radio communication with a doctor which enables them to describe symptoms, receive instructions and carry out such treatment as is possible.

B. DEPARTMENTAL HOSPITALS

25. 17 hospitals with combined capacity of 1,200 beds were operated by the Service in 1945. This year the Edmonton hospital has been opened and a hospital acquired from the R.C.A.F. is about to be opened at Miller Bay, B. C. These will add another 550 beds.

You will see that that is a very notable addition to the bed capacity to be made in one year.

These hospitals and their location are listed in Appendix "C".

This appendix shows the name of the hospitals, the address, the number of days, of patients, and of treatments; the amount expended, and the number of T.B. patients.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: The Pas hospital is in Manitoba, is it not?

Hon. Mr. CLAXTON: Yes.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: But it is marked here as being Saskatchewan?