

the exchange of scientific information. In reply to my inquiry he wrote to say that the material in question was not regarded as a cure for cancer or arthritis.

At that time a small shipment of ACS, which is the abbreviation for anti-cytotoxic serum was secured by the Connaught laboratories. Unfortunately that was found to be contaminated, as serum often is, and it could not be used. Another lot was obtained from Johns Hopkins at Baltimore and that was tried out in a number of cases but without any results which would justify its continued use. However, as the hon. member may have seen, the newspapers carried a dispatch referring to this serum yesterday. We shall be glad to see that it is followed up to learn the possibilities.

I have tried to answer the questions of which I made particular note last week, but if there are any others I shall be only too glad to answer them now.

Mr. MERRITT: The minister has given a good break-down of the costs of publicity under departmental administration, and he has also given us the projected expenditures of \$34,000 for the coming year. First, I should like to ask: Why ask for the \$15,000? I can understand that some contingencies may arise and I should like to know whether this principle—I take it that it is a principle—of allowing for contingencies is followed in connection with all publicity items, or is it done only in connection with this one item?

Would the minister say something about the publication "Canada's Health and Welfare"? The cost last year of putting out six issues was \$8,871, and the estimated expenditures for the coming year are \$23,000, or about three times as much. How many more issues will be put out this coming year than were put out last year and will it cost that much more? I have volume No. 2 of November, 1945, and volume 8, of May, 1946. I can see that the contents might be of some interest to those engaged in public health work, but I do not believe we are getting our money's worth when it costs \$1,700 per issue to put out this publication. From what the minister said yesterday, I understand that that is the monthly cost.

There are only seven pages. There are some personality sketches and then details of a film library. The issue before me contains four general articles with regard to the work of various provincial departments of health. I do not believe these articles are detailed enough to be of any value to a man who is professionally engaged in this work, and they would appear to be too short and too general and dealing with matters in too broad an

outline to be of any great value to the ordinary man on the street. Does the minister not think the contents of this magazine could be incorporated in the contents of *Health*, which, I believe, is issued quarterly by a private organization? The \$23,000 which would be saved could be applied, let us say to the neurological institute or to some other organization as was suggested by one of my hon. friends to my left. What is the circulation of this magazine and to what type of people does it go? Is it sent out on application or just a general distribution.

Mr. CLAXTON: The hon. member asked whether this item for contingencies was justified and whether similar provision was made in the other votes for publicity. I think the item is justified, particularly in the case of a new department. Hon. members will have in mind that this department was created only on October 13, 1944. It is extremely difficult to get a pattern of the departmental requirements in a new and possibly expanding field down to definite figures within a period of about a year. Remember that these estimates were prepared in November and at that time the department had been in existence for just twelve months. We had been paying family allowances for only four months. A number of divisions had not yet been established and a large number of posts had not yet been filled. It was impossible to foresee with any great degree of precision the exact requirements with regard to publicity. A careful examination was made, based upon our experience during that period and the experience of the predecessor department. These items were put in and it was felt necessary to provide for contingencies in this and in some of the other large items.

With regard to the bulletin "Canada's Health and Welfare", this was first published in October, 1945. There were only six issues covered by the expenditures up to March 31, 1946. As to the necessity of this publication, we took the advice of everyone who has worked in this field and it was thought desirable that the department should have such a publication. It replaced a publication which went out of existence and therefore the net expense to the public owing to the change is not very great. We do not know of any other way of giving current information about matters of health and welfare of interest and concern to all those engaged in this field from one end of the country to the other. This publication, as the hon. member has said, has seven pages in addition to the cover. It has reference to recent developments in the health and welfare field and to recent legislation; it refers to confer-