

-- A medical stockpiling programme has been initiated to ensure that adequate quantities of essential medical supplies would be available in the event of any major wartime or peacetime disaster.

-- A formal agreement has been concluded with the United States providing for mutual assistance and support in the same manner as if there were no border.

-- To ensure co-operation with other friendly nations, Canada has become a member of the NATO Civil Defence Co-ordinating Committee, and the Federal Civil Defence Co-ordinator, Major-General Worthington, has attended its first two meetings.

In addition to these specific achievements, progress has been made in a number of other important fields. For example, an overall health plan has been developed to provide a working pattern for the development of emergency health services. This includes, among other things, the utilization of existing and improvised hospital facilities; the provision of medical and nursing care for the injured; the development of laboratory and other clinical services; the restoration and maintenance of a safe water supply and other sanitary services; and the supply of blood and blood substitutes for transfusion purposes.

Special committees have also been set up by the Federal Government to blueprint the development of welfare services; to plan the most effective use of transportation and communication facilities; and to advise on industrial plant protection. Through these committees and those studying other aspects of civil defence, detailed plans have been worked out with the assistance of the best technical advice available.

For example, the Advisory Committee on Industrial Plant Protection -- a matter of the utmost importance to a great manufacturing centre like Windsor -- is representative of leading industrialists. The loss of any one of Windsor's busy plants in time of war, or the interruption or lessening of its productive capacity would greatly lessen the war potential of the nation. For this reason the protection of industrial plants must be regarded as an integral part of our total civil defence preparations.

#### A Steadily Developing Programme

These, then, are some of the areas of civil defence achievement. It is now just five years since a federal Civil Defence Co-ordinator was first appointed. Since that time, the programme has developed in three stages.

#### Stage One -- 1948 - 1950:

The period from 1948 to 1950 could be regarded as Stage One -- the period of planning. During this stage, the programmes of other countries were studied, Canadian needs were assessed; the views of the provinces were solicited; and agreement was reached on the division of