

a welfare officer at that time. But in the other periods when communications are open, we want to double at least our activities up there.

However, taking into account both the desire to give better service and the necessity for doing it, I am not convinced yet, as to what is the best way of doing it without spending money unnecessarily.

Mr. BROOME: May I ask a question of Doctor Crawford?

The CHAIRMAN: I have a signal from over here. Is your question on this subject?

Mr. BROOME: No.

Mr. PUGH: Carrying on after Mr. Speakman, could we have a figure giving the number of veterans in the Yukon and the various concentrations which might be known to the department?

Dr. CRAWFORD: I think there are 1,600 veterans in the Yukon.

Mr. PUGH: When was this figure obtained?

Mr. J. G. BOWLAND (*Research Adviser, Department of Veterans Affairs*): It does not provide for emigration after 1951. It is just for deaths since 1951.

Mr. LALONDE: That is the date of the last census?

Mr. BOWLAND: Two hundred of those are World War I.

Mr. PUGH: Would you have any idea of the concentration in Whitehorse or any other centre?

Mr. BOWLAND: We can obtain that for you.

Mr. LALONDE: We have a file on this, and will look it up.

Mr. McINTOSH: Dr. Crawford made a statement that there was a \$3 million decrease in the estimates. Actually, there is a \$2 million increase.

Dr. CRAWFORD: I was speaking only of the vote for operation and administration of hospitals.

Mr. McINTOSH: This increase is from 1956 to 1958.

Dr. CRAWFORD: The amount is \$46,264,751. That is what we are asking for this year. Last year we asked for \$49,545,000.

Mr. McINTOSH: What about your expenses?

Dr. CRAWFORD: Our expenses are greater. I explained we had these rising costs of wages and materials which we will explain later. However, our anticipated recoveries are greater under the hospitalization plan.

Mr. McINTOSH: I will not ask you questions on all these. However, I would like to know about this one which seems to have increased over 100 per cent, that is, the hospital insurance premiums which are up from \$300,000 to \$650,000.

Dr. CRAWFORD: There is a simple answer. The hospital insurance scheme in the provinces became effective in most provinces last year either on the first of July, or on the first of January this year. Therefore in the fiscal year 1958-1959, we had premiums in some provinces for nine months and in some for only three months for which to estimate. In 1959-1960, we will have premiums for twelve months, and in more provinces. The increase is mainly because of the fact that we are now estimating for a twelve-month year, whereas last year our expenditures were in some instances for nine months and in other instances for three months.

Mr. McINTOSH: Is there any difference in the payment of premiums as between provinces. I have knowledge of only my own province of Saskatchewan. The majority of the people pay their own premiums. Do you pay it twice?

Dr. CRAWFORD: No. These are paid only in respect of veteran recipients of the war veterans allowance as single persons. This is true in every province.