

*Supply—National Defence*

would allow them to continue the work which they felt they were beginning when they volunteered to take this type of training. I think the government should provide the vehicle whereby they can continue to serve their community in the capacities upon which they decided in line with the training they were given by the government.

**Mr. Harkness:** Mr. Chairman, there are all kinds of organizations in existence at the moment which these men could join and carry on and make good use of the training they have received. There are the municipal emergency measures organizations in a large number of municipalities; there is the St. John's ambulance organization; there are the emergency firefighters organizations, and so on.

**Mr. Hellyer:** The Boy Scouts.

**Mr. Harkness:** There are a very considerable number of organizations which these people could join and make use of the training they have received. The idea of the dominion government starting to set up another special organization is just completely impractical.

**Mr. Peters:** The people who took these courses came in most cases from the organizations the minister named, and they are now looking for an over-all organization which will bring them all in together and give them some purpose in continuing whatever beginning they made in survival training. In northern Ontario, for instance, we are now establishing emergency medical depots, the stockpiling of medicines in various centres. This is also, I presume, going on throughout other parts of the country. We are building an organization, the emergency measures organization, but in my particular area we have not even been able to keep anybody as the head of this organization. You cannot co-ordinate; the organizations are not getting together. I think the training which the government has given these people is greater than the regional heads of the emergency measures organization have received.

I am sure these people want to continue. They were impressed with what they were taught. A number of them have come to me and said it is unfortunate that this whole training scheme is without a follow-up program so that some advantage could be gained from it. If a person is unemployed and only goes down and takes the training for six weeks of employment, that is one thing; but if people take time off from a job—and professional people lose a considerable amount of money by doing this—and have done it in a public service spirit, then I think the government has the obligation to do this.

I might ask the minister, what co-ordination is there in most areas in the stockpiling of supplies, and what is the relationship to the emergency transportation organizations that he mentioned, and those others? Who co-ordinates them; where is the head of it established; how is it broken down regionally; and does he not think that this could be organized so that it is all brought together and one organization is responsible for it?

It is well and good to talk about the emergency firefighters, the St. John's ambulance organization and the militia, because the militia is in no different position than the others, as far as I have been able to ascertain, when it comes to nuclear attack and the emergency that will arise as a result of that attack and the organization that will be demanded. They have not been given much more leadership in this field than have the other organizations.

I think the minister will agree that now is the time for us to co-ordinate all these things and go ahead in some direction. It may be that more is being done under the Department of Health and Welfare, but I will be very surprised if it is not eventually going to be a decision of the government that this will have to be co-ordinated under the Department of National Defence. This will be the only value that the Department of National Defence will have if there is a nuclear war. Their only value will be in the field of national survival. I would think that the only place where this could be co-ordinated would be under the minister's department, and I think the Canadian people are now looking to the government to decide what we are going to do with the training we have provided for 100,000 people, which the Prime Minister said was going to be extended to a great many more people than under just this one initial program.

I think the time has now come for the government to indicate that they are going to set up a co-ordination organization that will be able to handle all these various facets of survival and give leadership to the many, many people who have volunteered for these courses, at sacrifice to themselves, who are now looking for leadership and who, if they do not receive this leadership, will obviously be of the opinion that they have wasted their time.

**Mr. Harkness:** Mr. Chairman, I think I should observe that the hon. member is more than two years out of date in making this proposition of some co-ordinated survival measures organization. We did that some two years ago; it is set up in the Prime Minister's office. We have a very active emergency