

my hon. friend probably knows, a report of regional committees, appointed to make surveys on different subjects. That is, they are committees of physicians throughout the dominion.

In the document which was handed in there is no report of the board, as a board. This report consists of surveys which contain a very great deal of valuable information, and consists of a great number of recommendations which have been made by the various subcommittees or regional committees appointed to deal with each particular subject. There is a committee, I think, on nursing, a committee on hospitalization, a committee on war-time manpower and so on.

Mr. McCANN: Were those reports of the different regional committees coordinated?

Mr. RALSTON: I do not know just what my hon. friend means by "coordinated."

Mr. McCANN: Integrated.

Mr. RALSTON: The central board itself has never had each of those reports and said, "We approve this, and we do not approve that." They are all separate reports. The question as to whether they shall be tabled is under consideration. I am strongly disposed to have them tabled, because I think they contain information which will be of general value not only to the services, but also to the medical profession which has contributed in their preparation, and in gathering the data. They would also have a great value to the public.

As a matter of fact, I can tell the committee that I asked the secretary of the board if he would have prepared for the board a summary of these reports in order that they might be in readable form, with the idea that, after consideration was given, and if the decision was made to table the reports, they could be tabled in full. The summaries would be there for people to read, for the use of the press, or for anyone who cared to read them. That matter is under consideration, and I expect it will be determined shortly.

The hon. member for Parkdale spoke with regard to reinforcements. I do not think I can add anything to what I said as reported at pages 440 and 441 of *Hansard*. We have long since gone past those items. My hon. friend has brought it up to-night. I say to him I have nothing to add and nothing to take back from the information I gave the committee at that time. I shall not take the time of the committee to read what I said, but I put it as succinctly as I possibly could. It is plain, and I think it is clear. I think the only

[Mr. Ralston.]

doubt my hon. friend has is as to whether or not sufficient provision has been made for casualties. On that I can only refer him to what I have already said, namely, that after consultation with those who, I think, know best, and having regard to the circumstances which are likely to arise, it is thought that the provision for casualties is sufficient. I have told him, as I told the committee, that at the present time the pool in the United Kingdom is well up to the plan, to full strength, and that that pool will be reduced as casualties unfortunately occur. In order to maintain that pool, or to replenish it, we are budgeting for 4,000 men a month during the year, and if those 4,000 men a month are realized it will mean that at the end of the year after casualties have been incurred—if they are casualties of not more than the scale which has been laid down—the pool overseas will be maintained at adequate strength, and the number in Canada will remain practically undiminished.

There is a number in Canada, as I have told the committee, of some 60,000 general service personnel suitable for overseas service, in training centres and in units as at the end of March this year. That is our estimate.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Are those volunteers?

Mr. RALSTON: Yes, those are volunteers. Then, as I say, those men will be withdrawn and gradually sent overseas at the rate of approximately 4,000 a month. We are budgeting for an intake of something like a similar amount. If that intake is realized it will mean that the pool overseas—if the estimate of casualties is not exceeded—will remain, and the number in Canada will remain exactly the same. If that intake goes down, that is to say if there is a falling off toward the end of the year, it will mean that toward the end of the year that pool overseas will be maintained but the pool in Canada will be reduced by the deficiency. I think that is as frank as I can be with regard to that.

I also add that there still remain in Canada about 50,000 N.R.M.A. personnel who would be available for reinforcements, provided the emergency arose, and the necessary action were taken. The hon. member's quarrel was that action was not taken immediately, and of course that is where he differs from some of the rest of us.

Mr. GRAYDON: May I ask one question? The minister said in connection with a question I raised last night almost at the conclusion of the sitting that there were 73,000 of N.R.M.A. men in Canada. He now says