

*The Address—Mr. McCusker*

provincial ministers and their advisers, and is concerned primarily with the division of over-all responsibility between the two levels of jurisdiction.

Now let me say a word about civil defence organization on the provincial level. Under the Canadian constitution, most of the matters bearing on civil defence, fire fighting, police, public health and welfare services, and so on, fall under the jurisdiction of the provinces which, of course, have complete control of their own affairs.

Every province has a minister directly responsible for civil defence, as well as a provincial defence co-ordinator. Each province also has a civil defence committee composed of senior provincial officials, and in many cases, representatives of province-wide voluntary organizations, and other leading citizens who assist in the development of plans and programs.

Provincial responsibilities cover such matters as the following:

1. Organization of municipalities for which civil defence is considered necessary;
2. Co-ordination of services of adjacent municipalities;
3. Provision of information to municipalities and other agencies operating within the provinces;
4. Training within the province;
5. Assistance to municipalities to meet civil disaster;
6. Protection against sabotage of provincial services and advice on methods of protecting municipal and privately-owned services;
7. In so far as within provincial authority, providing the necessary legislation to permit local authorities to operate, and to provide for co-operation with adjacent areas in the United States.

Finally, let me say a word about organization at the municipal level. Almost all the larger cities in Canada have established civil defence committees and appointed full-time civil defence directors. Every community of 50,000 population or more, with one exception—Ottawa—and a great number of smaller communities, already have nucleus organizations in existence.

To illustrate I shall briefly list the chief steps suggested for the organization of a target area for civil defence purposes:

1. Appoint a defence control committee of council members;
2. Appoint a planning committee of officials;
3. Appoint a civil defence advisory council, with representation of voluntary agencies;

4. On the basis of a survey of possible requirements and available resources, prepare a plan for civil defence;

5. Train one or more officers at the federal civil defence school;

6. Appoint and train a full-time or part-time official as civil defence officer;

7. In co-operation with provincial authorities and in collaboration with military authorities, establish a warning system where practicable;

8. Fix the location of control headquarters outside the target area;

9. Raise a group of volunteer workers to become instructors of larger groups;

10. Over the radio and through the press, inform the population of the main civil defence needs, methods and measures;

11. Arrange with municipalities within the mutual aid reception areas for the organization of assistance;

12. In town-planning and location of communities, industries and important installations, to take into account the desirability of dispersion;

13. Examine and, if possible, amend building codes so as to provide for additional shelter in basements, etc.;

14. Provide for a program of building up fire-fighting and rescue equipment.

Among the first acts of a new organization would be to survey its community under the headings of: fire-fighting, engineering, casualties, welfare, traffic, transportation, shelter, communications, control centres and black-out.

The local civil defence division could include the following units: headquarters section, wardens' section, rescue section, ambulance section, engineer section and welfare section.

So much for organization. The basic federal guide for this was prepared more than a year ago and has been followed, in its general details, by provincial and municipal planners.

It might now be of interest to the house if I outlined in very brief detail some of the major federal achievements in civil defence action since February when the sixteen specific federal fields of responsibility were clearly outlined, and when the division was transferred to the Department of National Health and Welfare.

In March, in meetings held with the Canadian Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, Canadian Legion, and the Boy Scouts Association,