

sessions of Parliament and heard a great many witnesses, several of whom were men eminent for scientific knowledge and attainment, and finally, on April 27, 1920, brought in its final report, making the following recommendations:—

“1. That a National Research Institute for Canada, endowed with the functions and of the character indicated in the foregoing, be established in the vicinity of Ottawa, on a site fifty acres in area, of easy access and conveniently located for water, gas and electric power supply.

2. That the first building to be erected for the Institute should be of the best modern construction, suitable for laboratory work, and of such dimensions as to provide accommodation for some years to come.

3. That there be appropriated by Parliament \$500,000 for the purchase of the site and the construction of the building, \$100,000 for the scientific equipment of the Institute, and \$50,000 for salaries and maintenance during the first year of its operation.

4. That legislation be enacted at this session to provide for the establishment of this National Research Institute and the government of the same.”

A bill for the establishment of such an Institute was passed by the House of Commons on May 3, 1921, but failed to receive the approval of the Senate.

In other countries, research institutes have been or are being founded. Among those already in operation, are the National Physical Laboratory of Great Britain, the Bureau of Standards, with its Industrial Research Institute, at Washington, the Commonwealth Institute of Science and Industry for Australia, the Cawthron Institute for New Zealand, the National Institute of Japan, the Physikalische-Technische Reichs-Anstalt of Charlottenburg and the Chemical Institute at Dahlem, Germany, and the Research Institute at Brussels for Belgium. Beside the Central Research Institute at Dehra Dun in India, which is to be enlarged to cover industrial research on a semi-commercial scale, the Government of India has accepted a proposal to found another research institute, and the establishment of a Research Institute for Burmah is now under consideration. Almost everywhere there is a recognition of the value of scientific research in the promotion of national prosperity—scientific research, not casually pursued as in the past, but organized and directed to the economic utilization of the natural resources of each country and the promotion of human welfare. Canada cannot be indifferent to this situation; and the Research Council feels that the establishment of a National Research Institute is the first and the earliest measure that should be taken to put Canada in a position to develop her natural resources and to hold her own in the competition for the trade of the world.

3.—Department of the Secretary of State.

The Department of the Secretary of State was constituted in its present form in 1873 through the merging of the previously-existing offices of the Secretaries of State for Canada and for the Provinces. The Secretary of State is the official mouthpiece of the Governor General, as well as the medium of communication between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, all correspondence between the two being conducted by him with the Lieutenant-Governor. He is also the custodian of the Great Seal of Canada and the Privy Seal, as well as the channel by which the general public may approach the Crown.

The Secretary of State is also the Registrar-General, registering all proclamations, commissions, charters, land patents and other instruments issued under the Great Seal. He is further charged with the administration of the Companies Act, the Canada Temperance Act and the Naturalization Act. The following information on these subjects has been secured in the course of administration.