

profiteering and, when and where necessary, for instituting systems of rationing and control. Special administrative organizations have been appointed by the Board to deal with such commodities as sugar, wool, hides and leather, and coal. The Board was given wide powers to make and enforce regulations and has, in general, secured the widespread co-operation of producers and traders alike.

Because agricultural supplies are an important Canadian contribution to the support of the Allied Powers in the War, and because war poses special problems for agriculture, the Government appointed a special Agricultural Supplies Committee (later changed to a Board) to deal with problems of agricultural supplies and marketing under war-time conditions.* The Board has been active in arranging that exports of essential foods and fibres to the United Kingdom be stimulated and also in meeting the difficulties arising from the dislocation of Canada's normal export trades. A Bacon Board was set up to deal with exports of bacon and hams to the United Kingdom under the agreement concluded by the two Governments. It commenced operations on Jan. 20. A Dairy Products Board was later established to deal, in a somewhat similar way, with exports of cheese and other dairy products.

The Canadian Shipping Board was established in December, 1939, succeeding the Ship Licensing Board. It has some control of the Canadian Merchant Marine, assists in obtaining shipping space for Canadian export trade, and in general deals with Canadian shipping problems. Mention should also be made of the Voluntary Service Registration Bureau which keeps a record of all men and women who have indicated their willingness to take part in war-time activities of all kinds. The National Labour Supply Council, composed of representatives both of labour and of employers, was established in June, 1940, to advise the Minister of Labour on all matters touching upon the supply of labour for war purposes. Other boards, agencies, or controllers have been established to deal with certain minor economic fields.

Being aware that it is essential to have an understanding of economic problems as a whole, as well as in particular, and that proper co-ordination of all economic activities and controls is necessary to produce the maximum war effort, the Government appointed an Advisory Committee on Economic Policy to advise the Cabinet directly on these broad questions. This Committee is made up almost entirely of senior civil servants who are thoroughly familiar with both the principles and the practice of economic affairs, and it has played an active role in assisting the Cabinet by reporting to it on many questions of economic and financial policy.

After the enactment of the National Resources Mobilization Act, a Department of National War Services was established in July, under a separate Minister, to undertake the National Registration of Canadian man-power, and also to co-ordinate and develop the various voluntary war services throughout the country. The new Minister and Department were also to take over the existing government information and publicity services in connection with the War. The most urgent immediate task of the new Department was the preparation for the National Registration. It was announced that this was to take place Aug. 19, 20, and 21. Preliminary preparations had previously been made for some aspects of this registration by an interdepartmental committee under the chairmanship of the Dominion Statistician. The new Department, with the co-operation of the Chief Electoral Officer, quickly laid the plans for the nation-wide task of registering every man and woman in the country, with information as to their age, status, education, and occupational experience. The most immediate use of the registration will be for the selection of single men of specified age groups to be called up for military training for service in Canada. Provisions have been made to ensure that this calling up is done in

* The Minister of Agriculture described the War organizations related to his Department in the House of Commons on May 23, 1940 (see unrevised Hansard, p. 183).