

trol Board which acts as a mutual consultative agency and maintains direct liaison with the Wartime Prices and Trade Board (p. xxxvi) for the co-ordination of orders affecting the several industries.

The need to extend and create new industrial facilities in Canada for purposes of war production led to the development of an extensive program of capital assistance to industry by the Governments of Canada and the United Kingdom. Plants were built and machine tools purchased with Government funds, but in most cases, the operation of such new facilities was left to private interests under specified conditions and subject to the Department's supervision, ownership being retained by the Government. Moreover, the policy of the Canadian Government to set up wholly owned Crown companies for the manufacture of small arms and precision instruments, as well as to engage in special purchasing and supervisory functions, was established.

The task of providing for the manufacture of modern mechanized equipment involved not only the expansion of production familiar to Canadian industry but also the production of equipment never before manufactured in Canada. The list of these items is impressive and includes war vessels, tanks, field, naval and anti-aircraft guns and equipments, precision instruments for anti-submarine and anti-aircraft defence, armour plate, bombs, and various component parts of war equipment. The developments in these fields are referred to in the chapters dealing with the particular industries.

The total value of contracts awarded by the Department to May 31, 1942, exceeded \$4,500,000,000, while commitments for capital assistance to private industry and to Crown companies exceeded \$640,000,000.

The Department of National War Services.—In the Miscellaneous Administration chapter of this volume, the establishment and functions of this Department are set forth. The organization and work of the Department has not undergone material change since that section was written and the reader is referred to pp. 943-945 for details of the various war services provided.

The National Film Board.—Although technically under the supervision of the Department of National War Services, this Board carries on many of its functions interdepartmentally and co-ordinates the national war effort through the medium of the motion-picture industry. It produces or arranges for the production of films on behalf of all Government Departments and Divisions; these are distributed to approximately 840 theatres in English-speaking Canada and 60 theatres in French-speaking Canada. A wide distribution to theatres abroad is also made. This includes the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, and the British West Indies. Non-theatrical distribution is arranged through the Central Government Distribution Service.

The Wartime Prices and Trade Board.—On Sept. 3, 1939, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board was established under the authority of the War Measures Act to provide safeguards against increases in the price of food, fuel, clothing and other necessities of life (see pp. 725-726) and to ensure an adequate supply and equitable distribution of such commodities during the War. The Board was given wide powers to check hoarding and profiteering, and to control existing supplies of goods.

The immediate tasks of the Board were to reorganize the lines of supply disrupted by the outbreak of war. Even before war actually broke out panic buying of certain commodities such as wool and sugar had begun to create difficulties. A