

Effective liaison has been maintained in scientific work going on in Great Britain, Canada, the other Dominions and the United States. Scientific problems referred to the Council in connection with the activities of the Armed Forces are studied jointly by officers from Defence Headquarters and civilian personnel on the Council's staff. The National Research Council maintains civilian scientific groups at several points across Canada and groups on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts work in close co-operation with Naval Stations. Many of the problems presented relate to the supply of materials and the preparation of specifications. Highly technical problems have arisen from anti-submarine warfare and minesweeping operations, air activities and on the direction of gun fire. Research and development in optical instruments, photography, spectrochemical analysis and geometrical optics have been carried on continuously and with good effect. Radium and X-rays have been used in routine tests chiefly for the detection of flaws in metals. Studies have been made in the development of superior flying machines and in working out all possible safeguards for the flying personnel who use them. Food studies have included work on preservation, transportation, packaging and dehydration.

Some forty active committees are now working under the Council's auspices and directing research in many fields. One of the principal groups of committees deals with the planning and direction of medical research both for civilians and for the Armed Services.

Continuing the practice of providing assistance to post-graduate research students in science, the Council awarded nine fellowships of \$750, thirty studentships of \$600 and eighteen bursaries of \$250 each for the fiscal year 1944-45.

Under the plan of assisted researches carried on since the Council was established, nineteen grants were made in 1944-45.

**Other Agencies and Activities.**—There are various other special agencies performing important economic functions, either of control or investigation. The problems of co-ordination, both internal and international, in the field of export policy have become more important because of the growing scarcity of essential materials. A Food Requirements Committee was established in October, 1942, for the purpose of studying both domestic and external demands on Canada's food production and recommending appropriate policies of supplying Canada's foodstuffs to other nations. In May, 1943, a National Textiles and Leather Requirements Committee was set up to allocate the available supplies of textiles and leather for the use of the Armed Forces, civilian population, war and civilian industry and essential exports.

In order to have an agency for prompt consultation among the various Departments and other agencies of government on the matter of export and import trade policy, establishment of an External Trade Advisory Committee was announced on May 4, 1944. This committee will investigate and make recommendations on matters relating to war-time export and import trade or trade in a transition period and concerning Canada's supplying of goods and services for relief and rehabilitation.

In January, 1944, the Canadian Export Board was established to act as a Canadian Government export and procurement agent for civilian goods for certain countries, especially some of the British colonies, where emergency war-time trade control measures have prevented normal trade practice from being followed.

Shipping policy is also under close review by the Government. The Canadian Shipping Board, set up in July, 1942 (see pp. 569-571), controls the use of both lake and ocean ships of Canadian Registry. In allocating ships to particular routes and in