

The Department of Reconstruction and Supply maintains central offices at Montreal, Toronto, Washington and in the United Kingdom, and representatives are to be found in practically every principal city and town in each province of the Dominion and in Newfoundland. In many cases these are in continuation of those established under the former Department of Munitions and Supply; the Purchasing Branch of the Department is also a continuation of the Supply Branches established during the War.

Subsection 2.—Liaison Maintained Between the Department of Reconstruction and Supply and Other Dominion Departments

Because of the close relationship which the Department of Reconstruction must have with other Departments of the Government, Directors-General and Co-ordinators have been appointed from the Departments of Labour, Transport, Mines and Resources, Trade and Commerce and other Departments, and the National Research Council has also been placed under the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply (formerly under the Minister of Trade and Commerce). It is the responsibility of these Co-ordinators to effect a smooth liaison with such departmental units as: the Office of the Labour Adviser; the Air Development Branch; the Economic Research Branch; Public Projects Branch; Co-ordinator of Regional Reconstruction Council; Resources Development Branch; Research and Development Branch; and the Committee on Special Depreciation. A synopsis of the work being done by these units is as follows:—

Labour.—It is the function of the Labour Adviser to advise the Department of Reconstruction and Supply on reconstruction problems and policy as they affect labour, and to keep in contact with labour organizations. He also acts as liaison between the Reconstruction and Supply Department and the Department of Labour.

Air Development.—The Air Development Branch has already completed a Canada-wide survey to determine inter-community travel between the more important centres. A historical statistical report on commercial air services in Canada, with a view to determining future trends of air traffic in various sections, is also under preparation in co-operation with the Department of Transport.

Economic Research.—The Economic Research Branch was formed for the purpose of advising in matters of economic policy and of developing information required for the analysis of problems on economic conditions in Canada. It is collecting and preparing data and reports in this field. The work of the Branch consists of: a series of monthly reports reflecting present conditions and future trends in forty-two designated areas; a series of industrial studies to give some indication of the nature of reconversion problems of the main Canadian industries; a collection of charts and memoranda showing current economic trends; forecasts of employment and national income level; preparation of a short monthly report on the current economic position of the nation indicating the significant trends; preparation of an inventory of Dominion, provincial and municipal public projects in terms of type, location, estimated cost and state of planning; a forecast of building material requirements for housing targets of varying dimensions and monthly reports on the supply of building materials; and numerous other economic studies. A report on the location and effect of wartime industrial expansion in Canada, 1939-44, has been completed and published and a study on "Public Investment and Capital Formation" was prepared for the Dominion-Provincial Conference on Reconstruction, 1946.