

separating development and manufacturing functions proved wise, and despite the separation in control and administration, there was always the closest collaboration between the two organizations.

Peacetime Reconversion.—By the end of 1946, the National Research Council had completed the reconversion of its activities from war to peace. In 1939 it proved a major task to convert the then existing peacetime organization into a powerful weapon for war; so, too, in 1946 reconversion posed large and even more arduous problems. War research facilities that had attained great proportions had to be discontinued or modified to meet the growing industrial requirements of peace. Most of the staff recruited to serve the country's war effort in research were absorbed into the peacetime establishment but many of the younger members left to complete their academic studies which had been interrupted by the War. Other matured and skilled scientists who had had years of intensive research training as members of the Council staff, found suitable avenues of advancement in the service of Canadian industries and thus indirectly extended the influence of the Council far beyond its own laboratories. The Council proceeded to recruit the necessary personnel, choosing only those of the highest calibre, to bring its peacetime establishment up to full strength.

Canada's wartime research organization has thus been modified to suit post-war needs, and existing facilities are being greatly expanded to provide the best possible laboratory services for Canadian industry. Three new divisions and several new sections of the National Research Laboratories have been established; radar and other war equipments are being adapted to commercial use; hundreds of investigations are in progress; and the Council is actively engaged in the promotion and co-ordination of scientific research in all parts of the Dominion.

An Atomic Energy Research Division has been established at Chalk River, Ont., to investigate the applications of atomic energy and the use of its products in industry and medicine. A Division of Medical Research has been organized to stimulate and support investigations in this broad field of human interest. A Building Research Division is shortly to be set up to study practical problems relating to construction materials and their use. Work is progressing on the building of a Prairie Regional Laboratory at Saskatoon, Sask., for the promotion of studies on the better utilization of agricultural surpluses, notably wheat, and farm waste products such as straw. An Electrical Engineering and Radio Branch has been created to co-ordinate and direct work in this growing field. The Chemistry Division has been freed from wartime requirements for routine testing and its activities have been regrouped into two new branches: (1) Fundamental Chemistry, and (2) Chemical Engineering. The tailless glider designed and built in the aeronautical laboratories, was test-flown successfully in the autumn of 1946 at Namao airport near Edmonton, Alta. A Flight Research Section has been established at Arnprior, Ont., in co-operation with the Royal Canadian Air Force. A new section of the Mechanical Engineering Division has been formed to deal with problems in gas dynamics, including work on gas turbines and jet propulsion.

Atomic Energy Research.—In June, 1946, the Dominion Parliament passed the Atomic Energy Control Act. This Act provides means for the development of atomic energy and for the control of work in this field as may be required in the interest of public safety and in the fulfilment of international obligations. A Board of five members was set up to act under the general direction of, and to