

for air transportation. Because of the close relationship of this task with the responsibilities of the Public Projects Branch, the functions of the Resources Development Branch were absorbed by the Public Projects Branch at the end of the fiscal year 1946-47.

One important activity of the Resources Development Branch remained unaffected by this merger. The Forest Insects Control Board, formerly reporting through the Co-ordinator of Resources Development, now reports directly to the head of the Department (see p. 399). This Board was, in the second post-war year, mainly concerned with the further integration and expansion of Dominion, provincial and industrial efforts to fight insect diseases by comprehensive investigations of the cause and effects of the diseases, methods of controlling them, involving both laboratory and field work, guidance in forestry management and inspection, and provision of incentives for the training of forestry students willing to specialize in the field of forest entomology.

**Research and Development Branch.**—The functions of this Branch developed along three lines: (1) a Technical Information Service designed to make available to industry the results of Government and other research (see p. 839 of the 1946 Year Book); (2) to encourage research work not undertaken by any existing Government Department or agency, mainly in the field of building research; and (3) to appraise the significance of research expenditures on the part of governments (Federal and Provincial), universities and industry.

To disseminate research information to industry, this Branch established regional offices in the major industrial areas of Canada to maintain direct contact with private firms. These offices act as a clearing house by bringing research results achieved by Government to industry and by informing the Government of industry's technical problems that could be investigated to advantage by the Government. Preparatory work done in the field of building research will be continued by the newly-formed building research division established by the National Research Council at the beginning of 1947. The results of the survey of Federal Government expenditures on research and scientific activity covering the period 1938-46, undertaken jointly with the Economic Research Branch, were published in February, 1947. Similar surveys covering work done by provinces and universities and a sample of industry are currently under way. Because of the close relationship of the work of the Research and Development Branch with that of the National Research Council, the latter expanded its activities to take over the functions of this Branch as of Apr. 1, 1947.

**Labour Problems.**—The Department has continued to participate in bringing labour problems, as they affect labour-management relations in industries of importance, to a smooth transition from war to peace also in employment problems of particular regions and localities. Employment conditions and the outlook for economic development were reviewed for such areas as experienced a significant amount of unemployment in the reconversion period. This work assisted in the formulation of an employment policy designed to meet the specific needs of these areas.

**Air Development.**—The Air Development Branch had been concerned with a special survey to determine the extent of economic inter-community travel between the important centres in Canada (see p. 938, 1946 Year Book). At the beginning of January, 1947, the functions of this Branch were transferred to the newly formed Bureau of Transport Economics reporting to the Board of Transport