

Bureau of Reconstruction.—The purpose of this Bureau (formerly the Bureau of Post-War Rehabilitation and Construction) is to co-ordinate all Provincial services in post-war activities, and to collaborate with Dominion Departments, other provinces, municipalities and private enterprise, with the view to formulating plans to create and maintain productive employment and to develop the human and material resources of the Province.

Through the medium of Governmental Advisory Committees appointed in seven of the ten Regions into which the Province is divided, Industrial Committees have been established to study conditions and recommend the extension to or the placing of new industries throughout the Province.

A Regional Planning Division of the Bureau co-ordinates information from Government Departments and from the ten Regions of the Province with the object of developing the economy of each Region. Advice is given to small incorporated municipalities on their community problems, and zoning by-laws and master plans are submitted.

Interdepartmental Advisory Committee on Industrial Development.—This Committee functions as a clearing house for administrative problems in the field of industrial development in which the interests of the various Departments are concerned. It works with the Bureau of Reconstruction in an advisory capacity. A Sub-Committee on Reconversion of Industry has been appointed which has sponsored special surveys in various industries to study the problems of reconversion; sub-committees on industry inquiries have also been set up in several regional areas of the Province.

British Columbia Industrial and Scientific Research Council.—The Council acts as a clearing house to: (1) co-ordinate the work of research units and avoid duplication; (2) initiate and generate new research work; (3) relate research work to other problems of industrial rehabilitation in the post-war period; (4) apply the results of research to the creation of new industries and trade-expansion programs. Research problems studied by the Council are undertaken on the recommendation of one of five Technical Advisory Committees, namely: agriculture, forestry, fisheries, mining and metallurgy, and power and irrigation. An Industries Advisory Committee has been formed to ensure industrial application for the research projects of the Technical Advisory Committees, to provide assistance for existing secondary industries, and to aid in the establishment of new industries in the Province.

The Government of British Columbia has planned an expenditure of \$28,250,000 in public works, not all of which will be spent in the fiscal year 1947-48. A sum of \$15,000,000 will be appropriated from revenue surpluses to be laid out on a three-year plan for new highway construction. An expenditure of some \$18,250,000 is planned for 1947 as follows: \$6,000,000 for maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries; \$2,250,000 for hard-surfacing roads; \$5,000,000 (one-third of the three-year plan) for new highway construction; and \$5,000,000 for new bridges.

These projects will be over and above the capital developments now in progress, notably, the Hope-Princeton and Pine Pass Highways, which will absorb some \$10,000,000.