

World War, was re-established on a large scale, and has become an important producer of materials that have found world-wide markets. As a result, in 1929-30, the Government provided funds for new laboratories.

**Establishment of Laboratories.**—The National Research Building on Sussex Street, Ottawa, was commenced in February, 1930, and was opened at the time of the Imperial Conference in 1932. Laboratory divisions were established in applied biology, chemistry, physics, and electrical engineering, and there was a division of research information. In April, 1936, the division of physics and electrical engineering was reorganized and mechanical engineering was established as a separate division. The work of this division continued in temporary laboratories but these quarters soon became inadequate.

Early in 1939 a site of 85 acres, adjacent to the Ottawa Air Station, was secured and 45 acres adjoining this site were transferred to the Council by the Department of National Defence. Plans for the construction of new buildings on this site were made but, as the inevitability of war became more apparent, it was decided to proceed immediately with the construction of only such structures as would have a direct wartime use in dealing with aeronautical engineering problems. Construction of the aerodynamics building was started on Oct. 17, 1939, and later several other buildings were erected. These included the shops and separate laboratories for research on engines, gas and oil, hydraulics, explosives and structures. Wood-working and metal-working shops were also provided. Since then these facilities have been enlarged and extended. New buildings have been provided for engineering and for low-temperature studies.

A résumé of the wartime activities of the National Research Council will be found at pp. 301-302 of the 1947 edition of the Year Book.

**Recent Activities.**—Three new divisions and several new sections of the National Research Laboratories have been recently established; radar and other kinds of war equipment are being adapted to commercial use; hundreds of investigations are in progress; and the Council is actively engaged in the promotion and correlation 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 has been 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 studies on the better utilization of agricultural surpluses, notably wheat, and farm waste products such as straw. A Maritime Regional Laboratory has been authorized and is soon to be constructed at Halifax, N.S. An Electrical Engineering and Radio Branch has been created to co-ordinate and direct work in this growing field. The activities of the Chemistry Division have been regrouped into two new branches: (1) Fundamental Chemistry, and (2) Chemical Engineering. 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.