

By an Act to amend the Canadian Commercial Corporation Act, assented to July 17, 1947, the Corporation, as such, was empowered to act as agent, on behalf of the Minister of Trade and Commerce, in carrying out the powers, duties and functions transferred to him under Order in Council P.C. 314.

The Corporation, therefore, has three separate but related functions. It acts as procurement agency in Canada for foreign governments; it is available to assist Canadian importers; and, in effect, it acts as agent for the Minister of Trade and Commerce in procurement for the Department of National Defence.

Subsection 3.—Canadian Government Exhibition Commission

The Canadian Government Exhibition Commission provides the medium for publicizing Canada and selling her products abroad by graphic presentation. Under the terms of reference, the Commission is solely responsible for the construction and administration of all Government exhibits in International Expositions, Trade Fairs and displays outside of Canada, in which the Canadian Government may decide to participate, and of all International Expositions and Trade Fairs sponsored by the Canadian Government, which may be held in Canada. The Commission's first fulfilment of the latter half of this responsibility was the development of the Canadian International Trade Fair, held in Toronto from May 31 to June 12, 1948. Manufacturers and producers in Canada and other countries had an opportunity of displaying their products at this Fair.

The Commission also co-operates with Canadian exporters in securing representation for goods at trade fairs and trade promotional displays and, on request, is prepared to advise individual Canadian companies in the preparation of their exhibits.

Though not a producer of literature itself, the distribution of large quantities of materials produced by other Canadian Government Departments and agencies is effected by the Commission at its various presentations.

Subsection 4.—Wheat and Grain Division

The problems of Canada's grain trade and milling industry are handled by the Wheat and Grain Division, close liaison being maintained with the various organizations connected with the trade. The Division acts as a procurement agency in securing supplies of cereals and certain cereal products for the Supply Missions of various countries. The Director of the Division serves as the Secretary to the Wheat Committee of the Cabinet and as the departmental liaison officer to the Canadian Wheat Board. In addition, the Director represents Canada on the International Wheat Council.

Subsection 5.—Export Credits

For the general purpose of protecting and expanding Canadian foreign trade interests, the Export Credits Insurance Act was passed in 1944, and amended in December, 1945, and August, 1946. This Act is in two parts, Part I incorporating the Export Credits Insurance Corporation, and Part II providing for loans or guarantees to governments of other countries or their agencies. In May, 1946, Parliament gave its assent in the United Kingdom Financial Agreement Act to a financial agreement between Canada and the United Kingdom making available a large credit to the United Kingdom. (See also page 870.)