

The Export Division maintains an Exporters' Directory, in which are listed Canadian firms and details of products they are in a position to sell abroad. This Directory is confidential and copies are supplied to Canadian Government Trade Commissioners, thereby enabling them to furnish foreign buyers with the latest information concerning products available in Canada.

The Import Division maintains a somewhat similar Importers' Directory. It also maintains a Canadian Trade Services Directory, containing information concerning Canadian customs requirements, invoicing, packaging, merchandising, forwarding facilities, steamship rates, rail transportation and marketing data. This Directory enables Canadian Government Trade Commissioners to obtain recognition for Canada as an organized market, and to facilitate the establishment of closer relations between Canadian importers and their foreign connections.

The Transportation and Communications Division facilitates the shipment of merchandise from the point of origin to its ultimate destination. Liaison is maintained with railways, steamship operators and agents, marine insurance companies, forwarding firms and brokerage houses. Policies initiated by foreign governments, as these affect the movement of Canadian goods, conference rates and regulations established by private steamship companies and the pattern of Canada's foreign trade are kept under constant review.

The Priorities Branch establishes a formal priority rating procedure for the purpose of channelling building materials required for the construction of certain housing, including veterans' homes, military hospitals, military health and occupational centres and other projects essential to the national economy. The provision of more houses, during a period of shortage, is made possible by assigning priority ratings for dwellings, the unit cost of which does not exceed \$10,000.

The Export Permit Branch administers controls on the export of scarce commodities, strategic commodities and items subject to government arrangement. Scarce commodities are subject to constant scrutiny, in order that they may be removed from control as soon as supplies are adequate. Through the operations of this Branch, it is possible to control the export of arms, ammunition, implements of war, atomic energy materials and other strategic items. Controls are maintained on building materials, in order to ensure a high level of construction in Canada. Controls are also maintained on certain food products, as a means of recovering on export the freight assistance and equalization fees involved.

The Emergency Import Control Division administers Schedule III of the Emergency Exchange Conservation Act, pertaining to a specified list of capital goods and production material. Following the decline in Canada's official holdings of gold and United States dollars, it was decided in November, 1947, to curtail imports of products for which a domestic or alternative source could be found. The first objective is to stimulate the manufacture in Canada of goods normally imported from the United States, where Canadian costs are low and production is economic. The second objective is to increase the export of products from Canada's primary and secondary industries, with emphasis on the degree of processing in this country. Another objective is to assist in the modernization of Canadian industry and to encourage the establishment of a more highly integrated Canadian economy. Efforts are being made to reduce the United States content of many Canadian products, particularly those made by foreign-owned branch plants. These plants are being encouraged to export more parts and finished products either to their