

By the terms of the Act, the Corporation assumed the whole of the undertaking of the Canadian Export Board, which was established by Order in Council P.C. 70, of Jan. 31, 1944. This agency was at that time carrying out procurement functions in Canada on behalf of foreign governments, the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and the Canadian Mutual Aid Board. As a result, the Corporation continued without interruption all procurement action being taken on Apr. 30, 1946, by the Canadian Export Board, and has continued to render similar services to a number of foreign governments, particularly those to which Canada has extended loans. In addition, the Corporation has been able to give assistance to Canadians in the procurement of goods from other countries where, by reason of regulations in those countries, it was necessary that transactions should be handled in whole or in part through a Government agency.

By Order in Council P.C. 314, of Feb. 5, 1947, the power, duty and function vested in the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply to purchase or produce munitions of war or supplies, as well as to construct or carry out projects required by the Department of National Defence, was transferred to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. In connection with this transfer, the Minister of Trade and Commerce was authorized to make use of the services of the officers and servants of the Canadian Commercial Corporation. Under this authority, the officers and employees of the Canadian Commercial Corporation have, since Feb. 1, effected all procurement for the Department of National Defence, acting as agents for the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

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.

Canadian Government Exhibition Commission.—The Canadian Government Exhibition Commission by graphic media of all kinds publicizes Canada and helps to sell Canadian products abroad. 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 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 at Toronto in 1948 and again in 1949. 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.