

requiring imports of capital goods. A "Projects Authorization", when approved, provides assurance to persons considering a project or already having a project under way that individual import permits for goods required to complete a project will not be withheld, if suitable alternatives are not available from Canadian sources of supply at the time import permits are requested. The Allotment Division provides annual permits to cover imports under a group of specified tariff items. A continuous pattern of imports, either of production material or of component parts used by Canadian manufacturers has thus been established. These permits are also issued to wholesale and retail distributors handling a steady flow of partly and fully manufactured commodities. The Capital Goods Division considers applications for import permits covering goods that do not follow any particular pattern of importation, and for which it is not possible to provide allotment permits on an equitable basis. Applications are refused if the goods in question are available from Canadian sources or are not considered essential to the Canadian economy.

Agricultural Commodities Branch.—The Agricultural Commodities Branch, established in December, 1949, is organized to render better service to the agricultural industry through closer co-ordination of the activities of the Department of Trade and Commerce in so far as they relate to Canada's foreign trade in agricultural products, wheat and coarse grains excepted.

The development of foreign markets for Canada's agricultural surpluses is the chief concern of the Commodity Section of the Branch. Working in concert with Canadian exporters and Canadian Trade Commissioners, this Section assists the agricultural industry in maintaining export outlets in those countries that were important in the past, and in seeking new outlets in other areas.

Agricultural information from foreign fields is of inestimable value in assessing future prospects for trade in agricultural products. The Analysis and Development Section of the Branch, in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture, arranges for regular reports from many countries and also directs inquiries to the Canadian Trade Commissioners for information on all aspects of economic significance in this field, including such things as production techniques, market trends, prices and agricultural legislation. The Section reviews and analyses incoming material and makes it available to interested government departments and the trade. The Department of Agriculture is kept fully informed on foreign agricultural developments and distributes much of the information thus collected to provincial governments, trade associations, and to the general public.

The Branch carries out its functions through close liaison with other Branches and Divisions of the Department of Trade and Commerce and the Department of Agriculture. It co-operates with the Trade Commissioner Service in the recruitment, training, and placement of agricultural officers in the Foreign Trade Service and directs their operational activities.

Economic Research and Development Branch.—The Economic Research and Development Branch consists of four divisions, as follows: (a) Economic Research Division, (b) Industrial Development Division, (c) International Trade Relations Division, and (d) Economic Forecasting Division.

The Economic Research Division.—This Division is concerned with domestic developments covering the activities of Canadian industry, regional business conditions, and the effect of varying levels of private and public investment upon employment and income in Canada. The Division undertakes forward-looking