

Section 2.—Other Scientific and Industrial Research Facilities

Aside from the work of the National Research Council, which is the central national research organization, research is carried on by the Departments of Agriculture, Mines and Technical Surveys, Resources and Development, Fisheries, the Board of Grain Commissioners and the Dominion Observatories. These bodies have trained permanent scientific staffs for investigation and research in their own fields. The research and experimentation carried on by the Science Service of the Department of Agriculture is outlined in Chapter X, pp. 381-382. The work of the Experimental Farms System is described at pp. 349-352 of the 1948-49 edition of the Year Book. Specialized work in scientific forest research is described in Chapter XI, pp. 460-463. Investigational work carried on by the Department of Fisheries and the Fisheries Research Board are given in Chapter XIV, pp. 572-575.

The Board of Grain Commissioners employs a staff of seven chemists and 21 assistants in the main research laboratories for milling, baking, malting, etc., while the Dominion Observatories carry out research in the fields of solar physics, astrophysics, seismology, terrestrial magnetism, gravity and other studies.

A Defence Research Board was established in 1947 to correlate the Special Scientific requirements of the Armed Forces with the scientific research activities carried on by the National Research Council and industry generally. The research stations of the Board deal with only those problems that are peculiar to national defence, collaborating with existing research facilities in other fields. The organization of the Board is covered in Chap. XXVII.

Universities often show bold initiative in exploring the field of scientific research but with the limited facilities at their disposal the task of carrying their discoveries to a conclusion is not always easy. Government and industrial laboratories are often able to pick up and carry on where the universities leave off.

A number of research foundations have their own special fields of research. The Ontario Research Foundation at Toronto, Ont., established in 1928, is an independent non-profit-seeking scientific organization available to the public and to industry for assistance in matters of a technological character.

The Banting Research Foundation supports the work of the Banting and Best Chair of Medical Research in the University of Toronto and aids medical research throughout Canada.

The Rockefeller Foundation assists various agencies in Canada in the furtherance of scientific research in medical science, natural science, social science and public health.