

in Canada than in most other countries, because of the widely distributed population and the number of sparsely peopled areas, and the CBC has gradually bridged the gaps with high-powered transmitters designed to serve rural as well as urban areas. The CBC has also pioneered in the development of low-powered repeater stations attached to the network lines, that serve areas unable, because of topographical conditions, to receive an adequate signal from any existing station.

News broadcasts and information programs occupy a considerable proportion of national and regional network time and include news, drama, informative talks, children's programs, school broadcasts, public-service broadcasts, sports, women's activities, etc. Listeners have a very wide range of radio fare, since the CBC not only produces its own programs in the various production centres across Canada, but brings in selected programs from the networks in the United States, the British Broadcasting Corporation, and other national radio systems. The CBC maintains a bureau at London, England, and at United Nations Headquarters, New York, and is credited with having done more to inform listeners of the United Nations' activities than any other broadcasting system.

Through the International Shortwave Service, operated by the CBC on behalf of the Federal Government, programs are broadcast in fifteen languages: English, French, Czech, German, Dutch, Norwegian, Danish, Swedish, Finnish, Italian, Russian, Portuguese, Spanish, Slovak and Ukrainian. The CBC International Service broadcasts information abroad on life and economic conditions in Canada as part of the general information plan for promoting a better understanding of Canada in other countries. Since the CBC shortwave transmitters at Sackville, N.B., have the strongest signal reaching Europe from this side of the Atlantic, the transmitters are made available to United Nations radio, for regular transmissions, free of charge.

The National Film Board.—The National Film Board is dedicated to the visual interpretation of Canada in motion pictures, film-strips and stills, both for Canadians and for the better understanding of Canada abroad. (For details of subjects, see pp. 348-350.) Since its establishment in 1939, the Board has produced some 2,700 films in English, French and foreign-language versions and more than 500 film-strips. It has built up a library of some 100,000 still pictures, adding about 7,000 prints annually. As a service to Government Departments and other official bodies, the Board maintains a film preview library of approximately 3,900 NFB and other prints, and 520 film-strips. The Board also acts as official photographer for the Government, recording and preserving occasions of historic interest, such as *Royal Journey*, the Board's first full-length colour feature, which was distributed to theatres the world over.

The Board's activities are carried on by four branches—Production, Technical Operations, Distribution and Administration—their titles indicating the nature of their operations. Current production rate is about 200 film projects annually and approximately the same number of film-strips, including language versions.