

slaughter and dressing before the meat is approved for human consumption. Sanitary conditions in packing plants and slaughter houses come under review and all canned meats must meet high standards of processing to qualify as food.

**Protection of Supplies.**—The Plant Products Division, in co-operation with the provinces and other agencies, is concerned primarily with the administration of Acts respecting feeding stuffs, fertilizers, pesticides, hay and straw, fibre flax and binder twine, and the production of seed. The inspection services of the Division have three main functions: (1) to enforce the Acts that regulate the sale of the agricultural supplies; (2) to provide, as required, such services as seed-crop inspection and the sealing of seed produced from inspected and other approved crops; (3) to co-operate with provincial governments and other agencies in promoting and improving supplies of seeds, feeds, fertilizers and pesticides.

Visual inspection is of little value for most of these products and laboratory testing is necessary; the laboratory services of the Division maintain branch offices across Canada. Testing of seeds is a complex matter, for they must be tested for germination, variety, purity and freedom from weeds and other kinds of seeds before they are graded. All feeding stuffs, fertilizers and pesticides are subject to registration, and this is refused if the use of products would be dangerous, if the ingredients or analyses are unsatisfactory, or if the claims made regarding their value are incorrect or misleading.

**Plant Protection.**—The Division of Plant Protection functions with regard to plants and plant products much as the Health of Animals Division does with animals, and administers the Destructive Insect and Pest Act. Imported nursery stock and plant material are all subject to inspection as protection against the introduction of insects and diseases. Extensive inspection is maintained within Canada to identify, localize and exterminate dangerous enemies of crops and trees. Provision is also made for the inspection of potato crops to be used for seed, for domestic and export markets, and for the issuance of health certificates required for a wide range of plant products.

**Standards and Inspection.**—The Department has been steadily establishing and improving standards of quality for agricultural products for 50 years or more. This work originated in an effort to improve the quality of export commodities and has gradually extended to include many products that move in interprovincial trade. Most of the provinces have adopted these standards for enforcement within their respective areas on products marketed inside the province.

Grade standards are established and enforced for dairy products, meats, eggs and poultry, fresh and processed fruits and vegetables and seeds. Grade standards are widely recognized outside Canada and many Canadian foods and agricultural products command premium prices because of the strict quality standards maintained.

**Dairy Products.**—Producers, processors and consumers all derive benefits from grading and inspection services of the Dairy Products Division. Authority to carry out such services is contained in the Canada Dairy Products Act which established national standards for dairy products and regulates interprovincial and international trade. Grade names and standards have been prescribed for cheddar cheese, creamery butter and dry skimmed milk and each of these products must be graded before entering into interprovincial or international trade. Dairy products for which grade names have not been established, such as ice cream,