

Canadian Government Exhibition Commission.—The Canadian Government Exhibition Commission publicizes Canada by graphic media of all kinds and helps to sell Canadian products abroad. The Commission is solely responsible for the construction and administration of Federal Government exhibits at international expositions, trade fairs and displays outside Canada and of international trade fairs in Canada sponsored by the Government of Canada. The Commission is equipped to advise individual Canadian companies in the preparation of exhibits.

Commodities Branch.—The principal role of the Commodities Branch is active trade promotion but it also has important administrative responsibilities. In trade promotion, the Branch provides liaison with industry and the business community in Canada, and passes on information about trade opportunities brought to light by the Department's activities at home and abroad.

The Branch contains commodity specialists organized in six divisions: Engineering and Equipment, Minerals and Metals, Forest Products, Chemicals, Consumer Goods and Transportation and Trade Services. Within these divisions, individual commodity specialists are concerned with such particular groups of products as engineering services and plant equipment, electrical and electronic equipment and transportation equipment, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, lumber, pulp and paper, chemicals and petroleum products and leather and rubber, as well as a very wide range of consumer products. Commodity officers visit plants, attend the meetings of business associations, prepare trade studies and market surveys, and arrange for displays of Canadian goods abroad for the purpose of introducing them in foreign markets. It is the function of the commodity specialist to direct attention of Trade Commissioners to changes in supply conditions and to products available for export, and to relay market news received from Trade Commissioners to Canadian manufacturers and exporters.

The Branch is concerned with the administration of the Export and Import Permits Act, being particularly active in the export control field; here, among other things, it gives continuing attention to Canada's part in international arrangements for control of strategic materials. Additionally, it is responsible for the administration within Canada of the U.K. Token Import Scheme and the West Indies Liberalization Plan. It also acts as a source of commercial intelligence and provides gathering, collating and distributing information that is essential to the operation of other branches of the Department.

Economics Branch.—The Economics Branch maintains a continuous review of business conditions in Canada and conducts special studies on particular industries or on any aspect of Canada's economic development as required. Aspects of the general economic situation considered include foreign trade, investment, consumption, production, prices, incomes and employment, as well as conditions in industries and localities.

Energy Studies Branch.—This Branch follows developments relating to Canadian energy sources, prepares studies and gives advice on particular problems as they arise. The effects of United States oil import restrictions on the Canadian oil industry, Canadian gas export policy, and planning and negotiation related to co-operative international development of the Columbia River basin, are examples of the specific areas currently of interest to the Branch.

Export Credits Insurance Corporation.—The Export Credits Insurance Corporation was established under the provisions of the Export Credits Insurance Act 1944 (amended in 1946, 1948, 1954 and 1957). The Corporation, which is administered by a Board of Directors including the Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, the Deputy Minister of Finance and the Governor of the Bank of Canada, insures persons carrying on business in Canada against risks involved in the export, manufacture, treatment or distribution of goods or the rendering of engineering, construction, technical or similar services. The main risks covered include: insolvency or protracted default on