

The Fruit and Vegetable Division administers legislation having to do with the grading of fruits and vegetables in both fresh and processed form, maple products and honey. The Division is responsible for the licensing of interprovincial and international brokers who deal in fresh fruits and vegetables.

The Dairy Products Division is responsible for the administration of legislation covering grades and standards for dairy products, including butter, cheese, concentrated milk products and ice cream.

The Plant Products Division administers Acts and regulations respecting seeds, feed-stuffs, fertilizers and pest-control products, conducts field inspection and maintains regional testing laboratories.

The Plant Protection Division is responsible, under the Destructive Insect and Pest Act, for safeguarding against the introduction of serious plant insects or diseases into Canada or their spread in Canada, for certifying freedom from disease and pests in plant exports, and for seed potato certification.

The Markets Information Section is responsible for the compilation and distribution of market information respecting livestock, meats and wool, dairy products, eggs and poultry, and fruits and vegetables.

The Consumer Section helps to promote proper use of Canadian agricultural food products through experimental work, carried on by its home economists, on the cooking of foods and the preserving of perishables.

The Transportation, Storage and Retail Inspection Section administers the payment of subsidies for the construction of public cold storage facilities; cargo inspectors at the main Canadian ports check the handling of goods moving to export; and other inspectors in the principal marketing areas make spot checks on retail outlets to see that food products meet the prescribed standards of quality and grade.

Agricultural Stabilization Board.—The functions and operations of this Board, established in 1958 under the Agricultural Stabilization Act for the purpose of supporting the prices of agricultural products, are described at pp. 399-400.

Agricultural Products Board.—The Agricultural Products Board, first established in 1951 under the Emergency Powers Act, was reappointed under the Agricultural products Board Act dated Jan. 23, 1952. The Board was established as an auxiliary or facilitating body for the purpose of purchasing, selling or delivering agricultural products pursuant to any agreement or contract made by the Government of Canada as may seem appropriate, as agent for the Agricultural Stabilization Board.

Administration Branch.—In addition to its general responsibility for the business management of the Department, the Administration Branch embraces the Division concerned with *Information and Economics*. *Administration of the rehabilitation and assistance programs* is also associated with this Branch.

The Economics Division collects, analyses and interprets economic information required to form and administer departmental policies and programs. It conducts economic surveys and research designed to improve agricultural production, marketing, and farm living conditions. The Division acts as an economic and statistical research agency for the Agricultural Stabilization Board, the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration and other bodies, assisting in any economic undertaking with which the Department is concerned.

The Information Division gathers and publishes information arising from research work and the development and regulatory programs of the Department. It employs all the recognized media—printed publications, press and radio releases, motion pictures and television. In addition, the Division operates the central library of the Department and a system of field libraries located at major research centres of the Department across Canada.