

experience can be used to best advantage. Their reports on conditions affecting agriculture and fisheries development are published and made available to other government departments and to industry.

The Canadian Wheat Board and the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada were transferred to the jurisdiction of the Minister of Agriculture in 1960 but international negotiations, consultations and agreements remain the responsibility of the Department of Trade and Commerce, as does the responsibility for export promotion and liaison between the Canadian Wheat Board and trade commissioners.

**Canadian Government Exhibition Commission.**—The Canadian Government Exhibition Commission is responsible for the planning, organization and administration of all Canadian exhibits in fairs and exhibitions abroad. In addition, the Commission endeavours to advise private exhibitors and their agents on the best means of displaying Canadian products at overseas fairs. The Commission is also responsible for any international fairs and exhibitions held in Canada, financed and sponsored by the Federal Government.

**Commodities Branch.**—The principal role of the Commodities Branch is active 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 officers of the Department at home and abroad.

The Branch has commodity specialists organized in seven divisions: Engineering and Equipment, Minerals and Metals, Forest Products, Chemicals, Appliances and Commercial Machinery, Textiles and 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 wide range of consumer products. Commodity officers visit plants, attend meetings of business associations, prepare trade studies and market surveys, and assist in arranging displays of Canadian goods abroad for the purpose of introducing them in foreign markets. Commodity specialists direct the attention of trade commissioners to changes in supply conditions and to products available for export, and also 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 and is active in the export control field, including international arrangements for the control of strategic materials. Branch representatives attend international commodity study groups in such products as tin, rubber, cotton, lead and zinc, where major world suppliers and users of the commodity concerned meet to arrange a framework for orderly marketing and price stability in principal world markets. The Branch also acts as a source of commercial intelligence and compiles and distributes trade information essential to the operation of other branches of the Department.

**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, 1957 and 1959), and is administered by a Board of Directors that includes the Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce and the Deputy Minister of Finance. It 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 the part of the buyer; exchange restrictions in the buyer's country preventing the transfer of funds to Canada; cancellation of an import licence or the imposition of restrictions on the importation of goods not previously subject to restrictions; the occurrence of war between the buyer's country and Canada, or of war, revolution, etc., in the buyer's country.