

The Council's laboratories are organized in nine divisions and two regional laboratories, each with its own director. Five divisions are engaged in applied and fundamental studies in the natural sciences—applied biology, applied and pure chemistry, and applied and pure physics. Four others are devoted chiefly to engineering work—building research, mechanical engineering, radio and electrical engineering, and the National Aeronautical Establishment. The two regional laboratories carry out research related to the resources of the Prairie and Atlantic regions.

During World War II, the Council was responsible for all research carried out for Canada's three Armed Services. After the War, most of the military work was transferred to the Defence Research Board (see Chapter XXV). Another wartime development, the Atomic Energy Project, was constituted as a separate Crown company, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, in 1952 (see pp. 333-338).

A Medical Research Council, fully responsible for the support of medical research but functioning under the general administration of the National Research Council, was established in November 1960 (see pp. 344-345).

The National Research Council consists of the President, two Vice-Presidents (Scientific), one Vice-President (Administration) and 17 other members, each of the latter group being appointed for a term of three years and chosen to represent industry, labour, and research in science and engineering. Many of the members are drawn from Canadian universities. The Council reports to Parliament through the Committee of the Privy Council on Scientific and Industrial Research.

The Council's current operating budget is about \$42,000,000. Approximately \$14,000,000 is required for foundation work—scholarships and research grants in science and engineering, plus the program of the Medical Research Council—and the remainder is used to operate the laboratories. Of the Council's 2,600 employees, some 730 are scientists and engineers.

Links with Industry.—The application of science to Canadian industry has always been one of the major concerns of the National Research Council. Since 1917, representatives of industry, government and the universities have co-operated, through NRC Associate Committees, in solving pressing industrial and economic problems. There is a constant flow of personnel and information between NRC laboratories and those of industry, and roughly 90 p.c. of the Council's own effort involves applied research intended for industrial use. Contract research on specific projects and a wide variety of testing and standardization work are undertaken. Inventions from NRC laboratories are carried through the patent stage, then made available for manufacture through Canadian Patents and Development Limited (see p. 106).

One of the Council's most important activities is its Technical Information Service. This consists of field engineers who visit manufacturing establishments, and a staff of trained researchers in Ottawa who use the technical literature available through the Council's library. All inquiries are handled but the Service is particularly interested in helping small firms with no research or information facilities. Free advice is given on materials and processing, equipment, plant design and packaging and on such topics as wage incentives and inventory control.

Direct financial assistance for research performed by Canadian industry will be undertaken by the Council during 1962-63. Under an Industrial Advisory Committee of leading Canadian industrialists, awards totalling \$1,000,000 will be made for long-term applied research and development. Aid will be given on a matching basis, with industry providing at least half the funds for any project. Companies of all sizes, covering a wide range of industrial activity, will be eligible for assistance and the companies will retain all rights arising from the work. By emphasizing studies expected to continue for a number of years, the Council hopes to strengthen existing research groups and encourage the establishment of new ones.