

ment and the compilation of market statistics. The *Poultry Division* carries out the policies of the national poultry breeding program, including Record of Performance for poultry and hatchery inspection, and administers the regulations for the grading of poultry products.

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, feedstuffs, fertilizers and pest-control products, conducts field inspections 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* compiles and distributes 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. 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.

**Administration Branch.**—In addition to its general responsibility for the business management of the Department, the Administration Branch embraces the Divisions concerned with Economics and Information. 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.

### Subsection 2.—Farm Assistance Programs

Basic to the concept of Canada's national agricultural policy is the premise that a stable agriculture is in the interests of the national economy and that farmers as a group are entitled to a fair share of the national income. In pursuit of these objectives, the Department of Agriculture has carried on, over a long period, a program designed to aid agriculture through the application of scientific research and the encouragement of improved methods of production and marketing. Over the years, as conditions have warranted, programs have been initiated to deal with special situations such as the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act (see p. 399) to deal with the results of the drought in the 1930's; the Prairie Farm Assistance Act (p. 387) to mitigate the effects of crop failure; and the Maritime Marshland Rehabilitation Act (p. 403) to save valuable soil in the Maritime Provinces.