

The results of the Branch research are made available to the thousands of plants comprising Canada's timber manufacturing and wood-using industries. By means of numerous technical publications and through other channels, continuous effort is devoted to the widespread dissemination of research results.

The Industrial Liaison Service consists of suitably located field representatives who visit sawmill and other woodworking plants in their respective areas to keep industry aware of research development and technical advances that may assist in the solution of industrial problems. These field representatives also undertake liaison duties to keep the Branch laboratories informed of field problems on which research would be of value.

**Federal-Provincial Forestry Agreements.**—The passing of the Canada Forestry Act in 1949 was an event of great significance to federal-provincial relations in the field of forestry, as authority was given to the then Minister of Mines and Resources to "enter into agreements with any province for the protection, development or utilization of forest resources" Since that time agreements have been entered into with most of the provinces for federal financial support for programs of forest inventories, reforestation and the purchase of capital assets used in forest fire protection.\*

Since 1951, more than \$25,000,000 in federal funds have been contributed to the provinces under forestry agreements, plus \$5,000,000 for aerial spraying against budworm infestations in New Brunswick and, on a smaller scale, in British Columbia. The Federal Government has paid \$9,000,000 for forest access roads built by the provinces since 1958, and \$5,000,000 in the past five years to assist the provinces with capital expenditures for fire prevention, detection and suppression equipment, airfields and improvements, and the hiring of aircraft.

Other work accomplished with federal assistance has included the completion of forest inventories by seven provinces. As a result of these inventories, new woods operations have sprung up, particularly in the British Columbia interior, and new pulp and paper mills have been built or are planned in other areas of Canada. The Federal Government has contributed under the agreements to the establishment of 15 new forest nurseries and the planting of 140,000,000 trees. Reforestation has become more and more geared to, and integrated with, current logging operations. Under a special stand-improvement agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia, designed to provide woods experience for coal miners laid off in the Cape Breton area, the Federal Government is providing \$280,000. Up to early 1962, about 160 miners had been employed under this program.

The Department of Forestry Act 1960, which repealed the Canada Forestry Act of 1949, contains authority for the continuance of this program of federal assistance. A new forestry agreement was entered into with the provinces for a term of two years starting Apr. 1, 1962. This agreement covers in a "single package" the federal aid formerly available under three separate agreements. The amount of federal aid provided for the period is \$16,000,000.

The main feature of the new agreement is flexibility. A province may spend its entire allotment for forest access projects, which include construction of access roads and airstrips for forestry purposes. Up to 60 p.c. of the provincial allotment may be claimed for inventory, reforestation, fire protection and, for the first time, for stand-improvement projects. A province, therefore, has wide discretion in allocating federal aid among the specified fields of work.

Federal assistance is based on payment of 50 p.c. of provincial costs, but reforestation is the one exception. The Federal Government pays \$15 per thousand trees planted, \$2 per acre seeded and \$4 per acre seeded with ground preparation. In addition, one-quarter of the cost of establishing new forest nurseries is contributed.

\* The history of the federal-provincial agreements and their relation to the Canada Forestry Act is described in a special article appearing in the 1956 Year Book, pp. 459-466.