

to improve their competitive position in Canadian and world markets by the use of the most up-to-date scientific and technical knowledge. The Council provides three classes of service: a free information service in collaboration with the National Research Council; assistance to specific firms at cost where information cannot be supplied from existing knowledge; and, at the Council's expense, research on problems of general value to the industrial development of the province.

**The Ontario Research Foundation.**—The Ontario Research Foundation, established in 1928, operates as an independent corporation, deriving its powers from a special Act of the Legislature and governed by a Board of Governors appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of Ontario. The organization was financed initially by an endowment fund composed of subscriptions from commercial and industrial corporations, from private individuals, and a grant from the provincial government. However, most of its current income is derived from contract research undertaken for industry, although income is also obtained from the various government departments for research and other work undertaken on a contract basis. The Foundation is concerned primarily with the development of industry and the development of Ontario's natural resources through the application of scientific research. However, Foundation activities are not confined to the province; research contracts are routinely handled for any organization, without reference to location. Being primarily an industrial research institution, the Foundation's main areas of scientific endeavour are chemistry, physics, metallurgy, biochemistry, textiles and engineering. Other Foundation departments, such as parasitology and physiography, are engaged particularly in studies related to Ontario's natural resources. A field engineering and technical information service is provided free to industry, sponsored by the Ontario Department of Economics and Development and by the National Research Council.

**The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario.**—The Research Division of Ontario Hydro, with a staff of 300, provides services for all technical activities of the utility, in engineering design, construction work, power utilization, and system operation and maintenance. In addition to solving specific problems, the testing, investigation and research work leads to important technical advances, including the development of new and better equipment. Ontario Hydro is thus enabled both to improve the performance of the power system and to effect economies. Members of the staff maintain close contact with research organizations and other power utilities, and participate in the committee work of major technical societies and of standards associations.

Electrical investigations explore methods of generating, transmitting, controlling, distributing and utilizing power, and seek improvement in equipment for these purposes. Some of the main fields of study are transmission at extra-high voltage; electrical insulation; system operation and control, and system protection against lightning; communications and telemetering; illumination; and power metering. Attention is given to the performance and efficiency of power equipment, to improved measuring techniques, and to means of minimizing the hazards of electric shock.

Structural and mechanical studies include the following: soil mechanics as related to foundations, roads, and earth dams and dykes; the physical properties of structural components and of numerous items such as conductor joints and line hardware; the mechanical performance and safety features of equipment and various types of machines; metals and metallurgy; welding materials, techniques and applications; atmospheric and underground corrosion of metals; stresses in materials and structures; noise and vibration conditions; and a variety of problems associated with the design, construction and maintenance of concrete structures, the application of masonry materials, and the production, placement and quality control of all concrete used.

In addition to chemical analyses and tests performed on a wide range of materials and products purchased, chemical research work is conducted with regard to such subjects as wood preservation, plastics applications, protective coatings, both vegetation and insect pest control, lubrication, liquid and gaseous electrical insulants, thermal insulation, air