

Economics Branch.—This Branch collects, analyses and interprets economic information needed to formulate and administer departmental programs and policies and does intelligence and research work designed to increase efficiency in agricultural production and marketing and to guide farmers in making needed adjustments in farm organization and operation. It acts as an economic and statistical research agency for the Agricultural Stabilization Board, the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration and other bodies, and assists in any economic undertakings with which the Department is concerned. The Branch is also closely associated with the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the UN/FAO World Food Program, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and the Directorate of Agriculture of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Production and Marketing Branch.—The Production and Marketing Branch conducts many of the promotional and regulatory functions of the Department. Six specialized divisions administer legislation and policies in the production and marketing of livestock, poultry, fruits and vegetables, dairy products and plant products, and policies in connection with the control of disease in plants. A General Service Division supplements and complements the specialized divisions in matters of common concern.

The *Livestock Division* (see also pp. 453-457) administers legislation dealing with the grading of meat, wool and fur, with the registration of livestock pedigrees, with performance testing of cattle and hogs and with the supervision of racetrack betting. Other activities include the promotion of livestock improvement 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 dealers and brokers who deal in fresh fruits and vegetables. The *Dairy Products Division* administers the Cheese Factory Improvement Act and 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 *General Service Division* maintains inspectors in the principal marketing areas to make spot checks on retail outlets to see that food products meet prescribed standards of quality and grade; maintains cargo inspectors at the main Canadian ports to check the handling of goods moving to export markets; administers the payment of subsidies for the construction of public cold storage facilities; compiles and distributes market information; and co-operates with the commodity divisions in developing markets for Canadian foods and in interpreting the grading and inspection regulations to the public.

Information Division and Departmental Administration.—The Information Division gathers and publishes information arising from research work and the development of regulatory programs of the Department. Publication is through the printed word, press and radio releases, motion pictures, television and exhibits. The general business management of the Department is undertaken by the Departmental Administration, the duties of which also embrace Emergency Measures Planning and the Departmental Library; the main emphasis of the Library's collection is, of course, on agriculture but extends also to the life sciences.