

Branch of the Department of Defence Production, the Petroleum Planning Committee of the NATO Wartime Oil Organization and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

**Trade Standards.\***—The Standards Branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce consolidates under one Director the administration of the National Trade Mark and True Labelling Act, the Precious Metals Marking Act, the Weights and Measures Act, the Electricity Inspection Act, and the Gas Inspection Act.

*Commodity Standards.*—On Nov. 26, 1949, Parliament passed the National Trade Mark and True Labelling Act (RSC 1952, c. 191) which provides a framework for the development of the National Standard and true labelling in order to circumvent public deception in advertising. In brief, the use of the National Standard is voluntary and compliance with commodity standards affects only those manufacturers who desire to use the national trade mark. This is exemplified in the National Trade Mark Garment Sizing Regulations which were passed on Mar. 16, 1961. In addition, where manufacturers descriptively label any commodity or container, it must be labelled accurately to avoid public deception. The regulation applying to the labelling of fur garments, for example, has been established as a code of fair practice throughout the merchandising field.

Under the terms of the Precious Metals Marking Act, 1946 (RSC 1952, c. 215), commodities composed of gold, silver, platinum or palladium may be marked with a quality mark describing accurately the quality of the metal. Where such mark is used, a trade mark registered in Canada or for which application for registration has been made must also be applied. Gold-plated or silver-plated articles may also be marked under certain conditions outlined in the Act. The inspection staff of the Standards Branch is engaged in the examination of advertising matter, in verifying the quality of articles offered for sale, and in checking the marks applied.

*Weights and Measures.*—The Weights and Measures Act (RSC 1952, c. 292) prescribes the legal standards of weight and measure for use in Canada; it also requires control of the type of all weighing and measuring devices used for commercial purposes and their periodic verification and surveillance directed toward the elimination of sales by short weight or short measure. During 1965, 661,133 prepackaged articles were checked for weight or measure and 487,582 inspections of devices were made.

*Electricity and Gas Inspection.*—Responsibilities of the Standards Branch, under the Electricity Inspection Act (RSC 1952, c. 94) and the Gas Inspection Act (RSC 1952, c. 129) comprise the testing and stamping of every electricity and gas meter used throughout Canada for billing purposes, the object being to ensure the correct measurement of all electricity and gas sold. Canada is divided into 20 districts for administration of the two Acts and the staff numbers 212. During the year ended Mar. 31, 1965, 1,506,821 meters were tested. In 1964, there were 5,981,778 electricity meters and 1,590,546 gas meters registered in Canada.

**Patents.†**—Letters patent are issued subject to the provisions of the Patent Act (RSC 1952, c. 203), effective since 1935. Applications for protection relating to patents should be addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Ottawa.

\* Revised by the Standards Branch, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.

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