

Research Council of Alberta.—The Province of Alberta set up a scientific and industrial Research Council in co-operation with the University of Alberta in 1921, the promotion of mineral development within the province being the chief purpose leading to its establishment. The Council operates under an Act somewhat similar to that which set up the National Research Council and is principally financed by provincial government appropriations. The present program is directed to the application of basic and applied science toward the development of the natural resources of the province and toward the establishment of new industrial operations within the province. Investigations in the Council laboratories and pilot plant are organized into two branches—the Earth Sciences Branch which includes all work on groundwater geology, geological surveys and research, mineral beneficiation and soils, and the Fuels Branch which includes work on coal, petroleum, natural gas, chemical process and product development, and gasoline and oil testing. There are, in addition, groups dealing with industrial engineering services, highway research, a co-operative program on cloud physics with reference to the hail problem, and a number of special projects.

The operations of the organization are controlled by a Council of ten individuals representative of the government, the universities and industry. The various research projects are reviewed by advisory committees composed of specialists in each field, drawn from industry, the universities and the provincial government.

The main Council laboratories are located on the University of Alberta campus in Edmonton. A pilot plant facility is located in the Clover Bar area east of the city.

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, and 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, applied microbiology, textiles and engineering. 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. In 1967 the Ontario Research Foundation relocated in Sheridan Park, Ont., where it is the nucleus organization of the Sheridan Park Research Community.

British Columbia Research Council.*—This Council is a non-profit, industrial research institute with offices and laboratories on the campus of the University of British Columbia. Its function is to enable even the smallest firms to improve their competitive position in Canadian and world markets by the use of the most up-to-date scientific knowledge. The Council provides a free technical information service in collaboration with the National Research Council, carries out contract research for clients on a confidential basis and initiates "in house" research programs designed to promote and utilize the resources of the province. The Council is active in the areas of applied biology, chemistry, engineering, physics, operations research, industrial market studies and economic feasibility studies.

* See also p. 401.